

Egyptian Newton – Mosharafa Program

For

Researcher Connect

www.stdf.org.eg

Open call for application: 9.11.2015

Deadline for submission 10.12.2015

Introduction

The Science and Technology Development Fund (STDF) was established by Presidential Decree number 218/2007. Its mandate is to promote science and technology (S&T) through funding scientific research and technology development in a way that supports the complete cycle of innovation. STDF implements its objectives within the context of the national S&T development strategy, which is established by the Higher Council for Science & Technology. The Egyptian ministries with the strongest impact on Egypt's national economy are represented in the council to direct the research activities towards the S&T activities which have a direct influence on the national development plans.

Researcher Connect is offered through the UK-Egypt Newton-Mosharafa Fund. For more details on Newton-Mosharafa, please see here:

<http://www.britishcouncil.org.eg/en/programmes/education/newton-mosharafa-fund>

Grant Description & Objectives

Background: In an increasingly competitive and global market, researchers need to communicate their research to an international audience.

Without the skills to do this, researchers and research institutions can find themselves at a competitive disadvantage, affecting grant income, international presence and reputation.

Researchers need the communication skills to: publish in international journals; present at conferences; apply for funding from national and international bodies; build international collaborations to further their research.

In recognition of this need, we are offering the Researcher Connect professional development course.

Researcher Connect is a professional development course that focuses on the development of excellent communication skills for international, multicultural contexts.

STDF's mission is to deliver skills training that will help researchers progress in their career and function at an international level.

Researcher Connect provides participants with the insights, understanding and tools to communicate effectively, whatever the situation or context.

Its function is the Development of critical thinking, reflective and critiquing skills. Researcher Connect is offered as a series of modules delivered in workshop format by experienced and quality-assured trainers.

Researcher Connect was developed by and will be delivered by the British Council.

Researcher Connect modules:

Researcher Connect comprises a number of different modules. You can choose different combinations of modules to make up a tailored workshop that fits the needs of your institution.

All the trainers are able to deliver any of the modules in the Researcher Connect prospectus.

We currently offer the following modules:

- Foundation Module (0.5 day)
- Abstracts (0.5 day)
- Academic Collaboration (1 day)*
- Effective Emails (0.5 day)
- Persuasive Proposals (1 day)*
- Presenting with impact (1 day)*
- Final Module/Group Project (0.5 day)

While the **Foundation module is compulsory**, for all the other modules, you can select different combinations to fit your needs.

Below are some suggested combinations (**NB these are just suggestions**; you do not need to follow these exact combinations):

A focus on writing

Day 1	am	Foundation Module
	pm	Effective Emails
Day 2	am	Abstracts
	pm	Persuasive Proposals (first half)
Day 3	am	Persuasive Proposals (second half)*
	pm	Final Module / Group Project

A focus on collaborative research and funding

Day 1	am	Foundation Module
	pm	Abstracts
Day 2	am	Persuasive Proposals (first half)
	pm	Persuasive Proposals (second half)
Day 3	am	Academic Collaboration (first half)
	pm	Academic Collaboration (second half)

A focus on core academic skills

Day 1	am	Foundation Module
	pm	Abstracts
Day 2	am	Persuasive Proposals (first half)
	pm	Persuasive Proposals (second half)
Day 3	am	Presenting with Impact (first half)
	pm	Presenting with Impact (second half)

Fixed Dates of the workshops:

We can offer 11 workshops this year. The dates for these workshops are fixed. Please see details below. We'll expect you to list the dates on which you can run the workshops in your application form.

Workshop	Training
WS 1	19-21 January
WS 2	24-26 January
WS 3	25-27 January

WS 4	9-11 February
WS 5	16-18 February
WS 6	21-23 February
WS 7	23-25 February
WS 8	28-1 February
WS 9	22-24 March
WS 10	27-29 March

Funding Criteria:

The fund provided by STDF (up to LE 10 000) for the support of a scientific event will cover Hall Meeting for the event (Coffee breaks and snacks during the event).

The fund provided by the British Council for the support of a scientific event will cover the Trainers coming from the United Kingdom and their accommodation.

The following eligibility criteria apply to this grant:

Any Egyptian Research Institution or University is eligible for receiving STDF funding in accordance with the laws, rules and regulations of governmental funding.

In all contractual, reporting and monitoring procedures, the university, research institution receiving the funds will be represented by a researcher having well-documented scientific research and development activities, who will act as the "Event Coordinator/Organizer".

The proposed eligible events should be held in the Egyptian Research Institution, or in the University, with which the Event Coordinator is affiliated.

The workshops will run from 9am until 5pm each day for three days.

Workshops should contain a minimum of 15 people and a maximum of 20.

Workshops can be useful for any level of researcher, but are particularly useful for those at the (assistant) lecturer level.

Researcher Connect is about communication skills; it is not an English language course. All workshop participants must have B2 Level English

Application Submittal and Evaluation Process :

All applications must be drafted using the exact formatting requirements for the current call, as given in the Application Form (Download Application Form from here). Failure to adhere to the exact format required will automatically deem the application ineligible.

All applications must then be uploaded to the STDF website (www.stdf.org.eg), to which registration is required; applications submitted by e-mail or sent as hard copies will not be considered. All applications must be in English.

The application must include a letter from the implementing institution's legal representative stating the event's title, as well as the name, position and affiliation of the Event Coordinator. The letter should clearly state that the institution endorses the event.

All applications will be evaluated on a competitive basis. STDF will ensure that the evaluation process is transparent, impartial and applicant-supportive. Applications submitted to this grant will be subjected to scientific and technical evaluation.

Deadline of the Call:

All Proposals must be finally submitted by the Project Coordinators before the deadline: 10 December 2015 (at 12 am). Delayed proposals will be considered non-eligible.