

Researcher-Led Initiative Fund Application

Response ID	Completion date	
156309-156303-10080726	13 Nov 2015, 22:00 (GMT)	

About you

1	Application Lead Name:	[REDACTED]
2	Lead is:	Doctoral Researcher
3	E-mail address:	[REDACTED]
4	Telephone:	[REDACTED]
	School and Department:	Institute of Development Studies

About your application

6	Date of application:	13/11/2015
7	Other participating Schools and contacts:	<p>School of Business, Management and Economics (BMEc) - [REDACTED] doctoral researcher [REDACTED]</p> <p>School of Global Studies (GS) - [REDACTED] doctoral researcher [REDACTED]</p> <p>Science Policy Research Unit (SPRU) - [REDACTED] doctoral researcher [REDACTED]</p> <p>Institute of Development Studies (IDS) - [REDACTED] Thomas Cooper-Patriota [REDACTED] doctoral researchers.</p>

8	Title of activity:	Rising Powers Young Researchers Network Conference
9	Type of activity (e.g. workshop, career development forum, networking event, seminar, conference, journal club etc.):	Conference
10	Proposed start date:	01/12/2015
11	Total funding requested (£):	£ 960.00

Section A: About the activity

12	<p>Please describe your proposed initiative (including aims and objectives; how the activity will be organised, who will be involved and how the initiative will be managed, the target audience and expected uptake, the training and development focus of the activity, and how the activity will be promoted):</p>	<p>Aims and Objectives:</p> <p>The Rising Powers Young Researchers (RP-YOUR) Conference seeks to promote and strengthen the informal network of PhD, post-doctoral and early-career researchers that share a focus on the development of those countries identified as Rising Powers or Emerging Economies. These countries, such as Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa (BRICS) or others, such as Mexico, Indonesia, Turkey, Colombia or Vietnam, together with other coalitions of “developing” countries (G7+ or V20 countries) are affirming themselves not only as drivers of global growth but rising voices of new, innovative, processes of development cooperation.</p> <p>In close connection with the University of Sussex Centre for Rising Powers and Global Development (CRPD), this initiative aims to bring together young researchers, from within the University of Sussex but also beyond it, from other UK academic institutions and partner organizations to share their learnings. It also aims to promote and strengthen possible research partnerships between them and with the University faculty that, within the CRPD, spearheads Sussex research on the Rising Powers.</p> <p>By its multidisciplinary and multi-polar perspective RP-YOUR fills an important gap in terms of offering a space for</p>
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collaborative work, networking and exchange for early career researchers working on these themes. There are similar successful networks focusing on specific countries (India, Brazil,...), regions (Africa, Asia) or even South-South interaction (China and Africa), but RP-YOUR offers a broader, more encompassing scope of relevant countries and interactions. The RP-YOUR network also has the potential to inform research and policy engagement programmes across Sussex by showcasing new research in what is a rapidly changing landscape.

The Rising Powers Young Researchers Conference, to be held in 2016 will be able to inform important relevant events such as the first year of the Sustainable Development Goals, the BRICS Summit in India or the G20 summit in China. It offers, therefore an excellent opportunity for showcasing new research, relevant to the political debates that will occur.

Activity organization and management, people and institutions involved:

A team of PhD students from the School of Global Studies, BMEc, SPRU and IDS, all with research related to Rising Powers (and most from one such country) joined together to put in place what will be the first flag activity of the RP-YOUR network.

The RP-YOUR Conference is scheduled to happen on the 8th of March 2016, at IDS, bringing together young researchers with key note speakers from CRPD and the DSA Rising Powers workgroup.

The call for papers is scheduled to be sent out in early December, both throughout the University of Sussex and through the network of international partners of the CRPD (ranging more than 20 academic institutions and think tanks from the BRICS) inviting the participation of doctoral, post-doctoral and other early career researchers. They will be invited to present their research, with a particular focus on the topics currently explored by the CRPD, namely: the impact of the

BRICS and other rapidly-changing and increasingly influential middle-income countries on low-income countries; relevant developments in Rising Powers (structural transformation, green innovation, inequality reduction and management) that impact their position and role in international economic and political relations and global governance; the need for the restructuring of global development institutions and global public goods, such as the environment, food, and health and the future of Development Studies research and training.

An academic board, formed of the CRPD research fellows (from the School of Global Studies, SPRU, the School of Business, Management and Economics and IDS) will review the abstracts towards the selection of those to be presented. Together with the students, the conference will be structured with 3 to 4 successive panels with 3 to 4 presenters each.

Target audience:

The RP-YOUR conference is directed to all researchers who share work and interest in the Rising Powers and Emerging Economies, together with an interest in new actors and voices in Global Governance. It seeks particularly to target doctoral, post-doctoral and other early career researchers, opening spaces and networking opportunities in sight of future research cooperation, particularly with colleagues from the Global South.

Expected uptake:

Beyond the networking opportunities, we are envisioning the possibility of publishing an IDS Bulletin with papers proceeding from the conference's panels. This, however is still under discussion. Alternatively, a conference report will be produced by the team organizing the conference.

Training and development focus:

The activity will enable presentation and networking opportunities for University of

Sussex doctoral and early-career researchers, furthering their engagement with faculty and other researchers and research institutions in the UK and in Rising Power countries.

How will it be promoted:

First level promotion will be put in place through the CRPD member and partner institutions, reaching a wide range of researchers in the Global South. It will be further promoted through the DSA Rising Powers workgroup, securing a wide outreach within UK academia. Promotion will use a multi-channel strategy, resorting to email, newsletters, together with social network platforms such as Facebook, Twitter and LinkedIn.

13 Set out how the activity will address the Vitae Researcher Development Framework (refer to the guidance notes).

This project will foster the following dimensions of researcher development:

- By bringing together young researchers from various academic institutions and disciplines, within and beyond the University of Sussex, this activity will widen the participant's knowledge base, particularly their knowledge of diverse subjects related with the Rising Powers, enabling information seeking opportunities. It will promote their critical thinking and creativity by exposing them to significant new pieces of research, which, while related, are beyond the scope of their own.
- The tasks of organization and presentation prompted by this activity will foster the participant's personal effectiveness, particularly those of the organizers and presenters. Among these we highlight the application and strengthening of personal qualities such as enthusiasm, perseverance, integrity, self-confidence and responsibility of all participants and organizers. They will also promote self-management skills of both organizers and presenters and enable professional and career development through the fostering of networking opportunities for all participants and organizers.

- The need to assure the timely management and execution of the many subtasks in this project will also foster the skills of research governance and organization, particularly, again, of organizers and presenters. This will promote values of professional conduct, together with their skills in research management (of presenters). In particular, proposal writing and, if approved, financial management of grants received will expose organizers to a practical experience of funding generation and financial management and resource and infrastructure management.

- The networking nature of this activity, bridging research centres within the University and reaching to other academic institutions in the UK and overseas will promote opportunities of public engagement and participation in a wider community of global citizens, promoting the development of presentation skills and development of communication capacities and, finally promoting mutual collaboration, particularly of those organizing the conference.

14 Describe how your initiative has broad appeal - e.g. to researchers in other Schools and departments; to a broad group of researchers in your School:

As stated in the summary presentation of the Centre for Rising Powers and Global Development, "BRICS and other rapidly-changing and increasingly influential middle-income countries, such as Indonesia and Mexico, are now recognised as epicentres of development policy innovation, as well as drivers of global growth. Policymakers in Africa and the global North alike are moving to court these countries' investments and to emulate their policies, whilst researchers and policy analysts are increasingly seeking to study the economic and geopolitical implications of their rise." The increasing importance of countries such as China and India is evident in the increasing prominence of high-level contacts between the UK and these countries and the priority established by the UK's Department for International Development (DFID) in the engagement with the Rising Powers. The UK's academic community shares this great interest, motivating the creation of the Development Studies Association (DSA) working group on the Rising Powers, bringing together researchers from universities such as Cambridge, Manchester, Kings College, Birmingham or the Open University, among others. As before referred, our initiative widens to the space of doctoral and early-career research to what is already the research focus of a college of faculty members from several schools and research institutes within the University, namely: School of Global Studies, BMEc, SPRU and IDS.

15 Set out the project outcomes and benefits (including learning outcomes, and how all those involved will benefit - including project team members):

Project outcomes:

- Up to 12 papers presented.
- Between 20-30 conference attendants and participants from the UK and institutions from the Global South.

Project benefits:

- Shared knowledge.
- Network development.
- Exposure to a wider, multidisciplinary, audience.
- Development of organizational skills, particularly for the project team members.

16	Describe how the success and impact of the activity will be evaluated:	<p>Indicators of success:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Number of applications to the call for papers: from the UoS / from outside the UoS. Number of papers presented. Number of participants: from UoS / from other UK universities / from other countries. Number of countries represented: by participants / as a presentation topic. <p>Qualitative interviews to participants will be used to assess own evaluation and prospective impacts of the activity.</p>
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Section B: Budget and timeline

17	Provide an indicative budget, including a breakdown of costs e.g. external speakers; facilitators; travel; catering; support materials.	
17.1	1	
17.1.a	Item	Expertize - External Keynote Speaker
17.1.b	£	750.00
17.2	2	
17.2.a	Item	Facilities - Room Rental
17.2.b	£	400.00
17.3	3	
17.3.a	Item	Catering
17.3.b	£	210.00
17.4	4	
17.4.a	Item	
17.4.b	£	
17.5	5	
17.5.a	Item	
17.5.b	£	
17.6	6	
17.6.a	Item	
17.6.b	£	
17.7	7	

17.7.a	Item	
17.7.b	£	
17.8	8	
17.8.a	Item	
17.8.b	£	
17.9	9	
17.9.a	Item	
17.9.b	£	
17.10	10	
17.10.a	Item	
17.10.b	£	

18	Total cost of initiative (£):	£ 1,360.00
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19	Total amount requested from the RLI fund (£):	£ 960.00
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20	Outline any other funds or resources committed to the activity by your School and elsewhere. Please indicate the type of commitment (e.g. funding, expertise, catering, physical space etc.):	<p>The conference room (£400.00) will be sourced by IDS, without added costs to the project.</p> <p>We expect traveling costs to be supported by participants.</p> <p>Other activities within the project will be sourced by the project members, without added cost to the project, namely: organization and logistics and communication and dissemination.</p>
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21	Include a timeline for the activity (including project start and end date, and key milestones):	<p>Call for presentations/papers: Early December</p> <p>Selection: Mid-January</p> <p>Announcement of Conference Programme: End of January</p> <p>Conference: March 8th 2016</p> <p>Conference Report / Dissemination: End of March 2016</p>
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Section C: Supporting statement

22 Please paste a supporting statement from your Director of Doctoral Studies below:

As agreed in a previous contact with the Researcher Development Co-ordinator, the supporting statement by the Director of Doctoral Studies at IDS will be promptly added as soon as possible, early in the coming week.