

**Call for Applications**  
**Waste Water - Treatment and Reuse**  
**UK and Gulf Countries Science Collaboration Symposium**  
**5 – 6 March, 2018**  
**Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Science**  
**Kuwait City, Kuwait**

**Background**

Water scarcity in the Gulf remains an ongoing challenge and due to rapid growth in population levels, the challenges that these countries face are ever increasing. With low levels of annual rainfall, desalination has remained the primary source of potable water, but given the high financial and environmental costs associated with this process, water treatment and reuse must be viewed as a priority to help support the region's needs.

Waste water is a by-product in a variety of sectors. The quality of the treated water and whether it can be reused is a fundamental problem. As with the rest of the world, approximately 70% of fresh water in the region is presently used in agricultural production. Therefore, the ability to reuse water for irrigation and human consumption would vastly reduce reliance on desalination or the limited supplies of groundwater; however, traditional waste water treatment methods fail to reduce the total dissolved solids to an acceptable level for this purpose.

When looking into wastewater collection and reuse, we should also consider the long term health impacts that are associated with antimicrobial resistance (AMR) due to the risk of spreading antibiotic-resistant bacteria through wastewater systems. In order to improve the methods to treat waste water we must also assess the role that both advanced materials and membrane technology can play in this thematic area.

With this in mind, we are organising a symposium that will focus on supporting and addressing priority areas through research and development of treatment and reuse of waste water within the following sub-topics:

- Treatment and reuse of waste water
- Improved methods to treat wastewater (eg. advanced materials membrane technology, other emerging technologies)
- Energy conversion in wastewater treatment plants
- Elimination of pollutants and hazardous substances (heavy metals, antibiotic residues and antibiotic-resistant bacteria, and other contaminants)
- Management of solid waste and other by-products
- Grey water and small scale treatment

The Symposium will be held at the **Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Sciences (KFAS), from 5th to 6th March, 2018**. It will be attended by scientists from Universities, other research institutions, start-up companies and established industry from the Gulf countries and the UK, as well as government entities. It will invite open discussions and potential investment to encourage the creation of UK-Gulf collaboration to access the deep pool of information & technology sharing, which will in turn lead to benefits for both the Gulf and the UK and open the door for commercial opportunities. We are, therefore, asking researchers to present their stimulating work and ideas related to Waste Water Treatment and Reuse.

This Symposium will be funded and delivered as part of the UK Government's Gulf Science Innovation Knowledge Economy Programme. It will include a research call via the Institutional Links in the spring of 2018 and 'Water' will be one of the topics. This research call, the second in as many years, includes a UK Government contribution of £2.4 million. This event is organised in collaboration by the UK Science & Innovation Network (SIN), the British Embassy in Kuwait, the UK Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) and the British Council, and is to be hosted by the Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Science (KFAS).

**The following expenses will be covered for UK and Gulf researchers from Bahrain, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the UAE selected to attend:**

- Return economy flight to/from Kuwait International Airport.
- Return airport transfers - Kuwait International Airport/Hotel/Kuwait International Airport.
- 3 night accommodation in a single room (bed and breakfast, check-in on 4 March and check-out on 7 March).
- All lunches and coffees during the two days of the symposium, as well as an event dinner on the first evening.
- Ground Transportation in Kuwait - Hotel/Venue/Hotel.

**Please note that those attending from industry/SMEs must be self-funded.**

**Deadline for applications: 19/01/2018**

**Applications to be sent to: [Fakheema.Badri@kw.britishcouncil.org](mailto:Fakheema.Badri@kw.britishcouncil.org)**

(Applications must be completed electronically. Handwritten/scanned applications will not be accepted.)

Please note that by completing and submitting this form you hereby agree that your photo, CV and other information may be used in the symposium programme and other event related material.

**Part One: Personal Information**

**Contact Details**

Name:

Job Title:

Organisation:

Nationality:

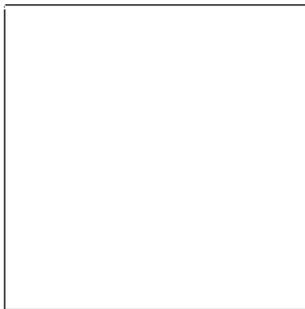
Do you require a visa for Kuwait?    Yes     No

Address:

Telephone:

Email:

**Passport-size photo of participant**



**What is the nature of your participation in the symposium?**

Attend Only     Present\*

\*If you wish to present at the symposium, please complete **Part Three** of this application.

**Part Two: Professional Information**

**Brief CV/Biography of participant**

**Brief summary of your current research and innovation topics**

**Added value of this activity for your organisation (200 words maximum)**

**Do you have existing professional links with the UK or other Gulf countries? If yes, please provide a brief description (maximum 200 words).**

**Please provide a brief description of how you (or your institution) would engage with participants after the end of the symposium in order to strengthen existing or established potential future links/collaboration (maximum 200 words).**

**Part Three: Presentation Brief**

Kindly **ONLY** complete this section if you are applying to present at the symposium.

Please note that presentation slots are limited and are chosen by a panel.  
Applicants selected to present will be informed by **2 February 2018**.

**Title of Presentation (maximum 10 words)**

**Research Abstract (maximum 50 words)**

**Please provide a summary of the research you are presenting (maximum 250 words)**

**Note:** Funded researchers will be contacted by SIN/BC/BEIS following the Symposium by Survey Monkey to monitor and evaluate the impact of the event. Once received, we would be grateful if you could complete and return this to us as soon as possible.

**Applications to be sent to:** [Fakheema.Badri@kw.britishcouncil.org](mailto:Fakheema.Badri@kw.britishcouncil.org)

Any questions should also be directed to the UK Science & Innovation Network [sin.gulf@fco.gov.uk](mailto:sin.gulf@fco.gov.uk)

## **Selection Matrix of grant applications to attend UK-Gulf research symposia**

**Date: 5 – 6 March, 2018**

**Location: Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Science, Kuwait City, Kuwait**

**Topic: Waste Water - Treatment and Reuse**

Based on the call, the first stage would be the eligibility checks:

- Applicants must be based at a recognised publicly funded research establishment, Higher Education Institutions (can include private universities), successful start-up companies, innovation centres and catapults and established companies.
- Applicants must have the capacity to administer a grant and satisfy the UK Government requirements to prevent bribery, fraud and professional misconduct.
- Researcher must be working in one of the relevant academic disciplines.
- Researcher is at the **appropriate** stage in their academic career.
- Researcher demonstrates their institutions commitment to enter into bilateral/trilateral research with the GCCs.
- Early career researchers (with a minimum of 2 year experience in an institution post award of their PhD).
- Lecturer post (with a minimum of 3 - 5 year experience in an institution post award of their PhD)
- Senior Lecturer/Professor (with a minimum of 6 years' experience in an institution post award of their PhD).

### **1. Research quality and relevance**

0-20 points

Criteria:

- The academic importance and timeliness to the symposium of their current research topics are clearly demonstrated.
- The applicant has sufficient, relevant experience to contribute to the symposium and its stated objectives.
- The applicant's current collaborations with the Gulf are of suitable standing to add value to the symposium

20 points: Meets all criteria to an exceptional level

16 to 19 points: Meets the majority of the criteria to a very high level

11 to 15 points: Meets the majority of the criteria to a high level

6 to 10 points: Meets the majority of the criteria to an adequate level

1 to 5 points: Meets some of the criteria to an adequate level

0 points: Fails to meet any of the criteria to an adequate level.

## **2. Added value of attendance at the symposium to the applicant**

0-20 points

Criteria:

- The description of the added value includes clear, feasible and realistic objectives.
- There is clear evidence that the attendance at the symposium supports new links or significantly extends and develops existing links for the applicant.
- The benefits and relevance of attendance to the applicant and institution, and to research itself, are clearly described.
- There is written evidence of support from the institutions in achieving their institutions goals in the Gulf.
- The attendance is justified as part of their or their institutions plans for a larger programme in the Gulf.

20 points: Meets all criteria to an exceptional level

16 to 19 points: Meets the majority of the criteria to a very high level

11 to 15 points: Meets the majority of the criteria to a high level

6 to 10 points: Meets the majority of the criteria to an adequate level

1 to 5 points: Meets some of the criteria to an adequate level

0 points: Fails to meet any of the criteria to an adequate level

## **3. Sustainability and follow-up activity**

0-20 points

Criteria:

- The application includes a clear and feasible description of how the individual and institution involved intend to develop collaboration over the next 1, 3 and 5 years.

20 points: Proposed follow-up is at an exceptional level

16 to 19 points: Proposed follow-up is at a very high level

11 to 15 points: Proposed follow-up is at a high level

6 to 10 points: Proposed follow-up is at an adequate level

1 to 5 points: Proposed follow-up is at a poor level

0 points: Fails to provide an adequate follow-up