Application for Science Collaboration Symposium
Attending Countries: UK and Gulf Countries
Theme: Cyber Security
Dates: 14 - 16 November 2017
Location: University of Manchester, United Kingdom

Background

Countries across the Gulf region are striving towards the notion of a digital economy, and although digitalisation holds the prospective for vast benefits, it also comes with risk from the ever-growing number of cyber related threats.

Cyber terrorism is a global issue and one that is ever changing, both in terms of the level of sophistication and the impact to public and private entities. Cyber related crime has evolved thanks to the advancing capabilities of those responsible, as well as the efficiency of these networks of groups seeking to benefit from cyber terrorism. Nation states have also sought to develop and utilise cyber attack technologies and are employing these as part of their national military capabilities, as well as many threat actors stealing valuable intellectual property.

The vast resources of the Gulf countries and their rapid adoption of digital technology have made them a prime target for cyber related activity. Cyber security has, therefore, become a priority for Gulf States following a number of recent attacks on both public and private sector companies, with the number of incidents in the region rising by as much as 500% in the last year. Governments across the region are conscious of these new threats and are actively seeking to strengthen their national cyber-security infrastructure, prompting a push at a national level to assess and rectify weaknesses.

Given the close relationship between the Gulf and the UK, it is also in the UK national interest that our Gulf partners have effective cyber security capabilities, not least as in many cases the UK is dependent on the effective functioning of key elements of the Gulf countries' critical national infrastructure.

With this in mind, we are organising a symposium that will focus on seeking to support and address priority areas for cyber security related to the national visions of the Gulf countries, in order to promote research and development in the following areas:

- Protection of Critical National Information & Infrastructure
    - Financial Services
    - Healthcare Services
    - Transportation Services
    - Telecommunications
    - Utilities
- Protection of big data
    - Banking
    - Government
    - Healthcare (Healthcare Records & Genomic Medicine)
    - Education

- Cyber security as it relates to the internet of things
  - Smart Cities
  - Connected Healthcare
  - Smart Manufacturing
  - Privacy/Data Protection
  - Cloud Computing

The Symposium will be held at the **University of Manchester, from 14th to 16th November, 2017.** 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 from 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 asking researchers to present their stimulating work and ideas related to cyber security.

This Symposium on Cyber Security will be funded and delivered as part of the UK Government's Gulf Science Innovation Knowledge Economy Programme, which forms part of a wider programme. It will include a research call via the Institutional Links in the Spring of 2018. Cyber security will be one of the topics of this call for proposals. This research call, the second in as many years, has a UK Government contribution of £2.4 million. This event is organised in collaboration by the UK Science & Innovation Network (SIN), the UK Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, the British Council and in partnership with the University of Manchester.

The following expenses will be covered for the researchers selected to attend:
- Return economy flight to/from Manchester International Airport for international participants, or train fare to Manchester for UK participants.
- Train tickets will be paid for by way of reimbursement for UK participants upon submission of receipts.
- 3 - 4 nights accommodation in a single room for international participants.
- 2 - 3 nights accommodation in a single room for UK participants travelling in from outside the North West of England.

<u>**Please note that those attending from industry/SMEs must be self-funded**</u>

Deadline for applications: 14/09/2017

Applications to be sent to: SIN.Gulf@fco.gov.uk

(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:

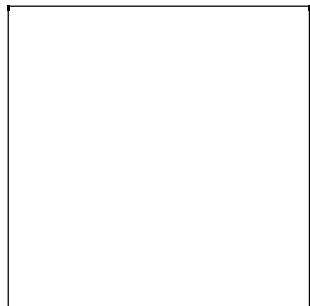Organisation:

Nationality:

Do you require a visa for the UK?   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).

GREAT
BRITAIN & NORTHERN IRELAND

Part Three: Presentation Brief

Kindly <u>ONLY</u> 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 6th October 2017.

Title of Presentation (maximum 10 words)

Research Abstract (maximum 50 words)

Please provide a brief 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: <u>SIN.Gulf@fco.gov.uk</u>

Any questions should also be directed to the UK Science & Innovation Network on SIN.Gulf@fco.gov.uk

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

Date: 14 - 16 November 2017
Location: University of Manchester, United Kingdom
Topic: Cyber Security

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