

October 20, 2021
Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST)

JST to fund two research projects for "Sustainable development in South East Asia - marine science, water related issues or urban environment etc.-" under 'Science, Technology and Action' Nexus for Development (STAND) framework

The Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST) has decided to fund two projects under the theme of “Sustainable development in South East Asia - marine science, water related issues or urban environment etc.” under 'Science, Technology and Action' Nexus for Development (STAND) framework.

The call saw a total of 8 proposals submitted, out of which 2 were selected for funding following an expert evaluation and consultation with participating partner funding agencies.

The research period is scheduled to end in September 2022.

1) 'Science, Technology and Action' Nexus for Development (STAND) is a novel partnership scheme that links funding actors and multiple stakeholders across borders in order to maximize the efficiency of our research investments towards achieving the SDGs. STAND attempts to harmonize development research efforts which were previously carried out separately by different funding agencies. Through STAND there will be multilateral joint calls for collaborative development research which contribute to solving societal challenges in focus regions / countries.

URL: https://www.jst.go.jp/inter/english/program_e/multilateral_e/stand.html

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Contact

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List of Awarded Projects

#	Project Title	Principal Investigators	Position and Institution	Project Abstract
1	ASEAN-PLASTIC: A South-East Asian Network for Plastics Monitoring - Synergistic linking of recently-established initiatives to maximise regional impact	ISOBE Atsuhiko (Japan)	Professor, Research Institute for Applied Mechanics, Kyushu University	The present research project mainly conducted in Malaysia attempts to establish a guideline to standardize microplastic monitoring applicable to ASEAN regions. The knowledge acquired during the project is expected to change behavior to reduce plastic debris by engaging in educational activities on citizens and students. The protocols for measuring ocean microplastics in light of the guideline, quantifying beach-plastic litter by novel technologies such as drones, analyzing microplastic behavior in the marine ecosystem, and educations to enhance public awareness, which have been developed by researchers in Japan, Philippines, and UK, will be shared and harmonized in the project to combat ASEAN plastics.
Deo Flourence Onda (The Philippines)	Associate Professor, The Marine Science Institute, University of the Philippines Diliman			
Andrew Mayes (United Kingdom)	Senior Lecturer, School of Chemistry, University of East Anglia			
Moritz Mueller (Malaysia)	Associate Professor, Science course, Swinburne University of Technology Sarawak Campus			

#	Project Title	Principal Investigators	Position and Institution	Project Abstract
2	Integrated network-based management for SEA* coastal zone (InMSEA) project	<p>NADAOKA Kazuo (Japan)</p>	<p>Specially Appointed Professor, School of Environment and Society, Tokyo Institute of Technology</p>	<p>This project aims at developing new coastal zone management methodologies based on integrated multi-scale networks.</p> <p>The Japan team will propose integrated coastal ecosystem management methodologies based on the innovative methods for coastal ecosystem surveys and modeling, which have been developed in an ongoing project on blue carbon under the SATREPS Program. The UK team will provide technical supports for survey planning and data analysis in a new watershed and coastal zone coupling framework based on the field surveys on green carbon ecosystem dynamics conducted in the Newton Fund project. The Malaysia team will make a strategic plan for developing a nationwide network. The Philippine and Indonesia team will enhance the nationwide network development in each country and support for introducing and developing a nationwide network in Malaysia.</p> <p>Through these activities, this project will try to combine the ecosystem survey methodologies on blue carbon which have been developed by the SATREPS project and those on green carbon developed by the NEWTON fund project, for providing comprehensive knowledge on the green-blue linked ecosystems. Further, this project aims at developing a nationwide network in Malaysia based on the nationwide networks in the Philippines and Indonesia being developed by the SATREPS project. The three countries' networks will be the core for further development of an SEA regional network. These multi-scale network developments will be the basis of the integrated network-based management for SEA coastal zone. For implementing this new management scheme, the project will collaborate with Partnerships in Environmental Management for the Seas of East Asia (PEMSEA).</p>
		<p>Severino III SALMO (The Philippines)</p>	<p>Associate professor, Institute of Biology, University of the Philippines Diliman</p>	
		<p>Claire EVANS (United Kingdom)</p>	<p>Senior Research Scientist, Ocean BioGeoscience, National Oceanography Research Centre</p>	
		<p>Novi SUSETYO Adi (Indonesia)</p>	<p>Scientist, Marine Research Center, Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries</p>	
<p>Sahadev SHARMA (Malaysia)</p>	<p>Senior Lecturer Institute of Ocean and Earth Sciences Universiti Malaya</p>			

* SEA: South East Asia

Call Outline

1. Application Requirements

Proposals should include at least one project funded by UKRI and one project funded by JST and include partners in South East Asia.

Proposals should be led by at least one project leader based in a UK Research Organisation (RO) eligible to receive funding from UKRI and one project leader based in a Japanese RO eligible to receive funding from JST.

Proposals should also include partners from countries in South East Asia. Where relevant, proposals may also include a project leader based in the Philippines and eligible to receive funding from DOST.

Proposals should connect currently or recently (within the last 3 years) active projects focused on South East Asia funded under the following schemes:

- Newton Fund (UKRI)
- Global Challenges Research Fund: GCRF (UKRI)
- Science and Technology Research Partnership for Sustainable Development: SATREPS (JST)
- e-ASIA Joint Research Program: e-ASIA JRP (JST)
- Accelerating Social Implementation for SDGs achievement: aXis (JST)
- For the Philippines, projects currently funded in any of the funding schemes of DOST, UKRI and/or JST.

UK-based project leaders should be a Principle or Co-Investigator for the participating GCRF or Newton Fund projects.

Japan-based project leaders should be a Principle or Co-Investigator for the participating SATREPS, e-ASIA or aXis

2. Foreign Funding Agency

UKRI: UK Research and Innovation / United Kingdom

DOST: Department of Science and Technology / Republic of the Philippines

3. Research Period

The research period is expected to last from October 2021 until September 2022

4. Selected Projects: 2 projects

5. Amount of Funding (JST)

5 million yen per project (JST-funded side), inclusive of overhead costs (30 percent of direct costs).

6. Evaluation Criteria

1. Relevance and fit to call:

a) the project's alignment to Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the theme of 'sustainable development in South East Asia'

b) identification of a relevant development challenge

- c) the identification of appropriate previously funded projects to coll
2. Programme of activities, organisation and management:
- a) how appropriate are the planned activities and how likely are they to deliver the aims of the call
 - b) the clarity of objectives and realistic plans to deliver these, including plans for monitoring, evaluation and legacy
 - c) competence and complementarity of the participants within the project
 - d) the extent to which the project fully justifies its costs and can demonstrate good value for money
 - e) the extent to which the project leaders have the appropriate skills/experience/environment
3. Capacity building, partnerships and inclusion:
- a) the degree and quality of co-design and equitable partnership across the partners
 - b) the potential for research and innovation capacity building
 - c) the extent to which the project will forge new links and dialogues
 - d) appropriate mechanisms for promoting gender equality and inclusion in the project
4. Likelihood of impact:
- a) appropriate engagement with policy/practice/user stakeholders
 - b) the sustainability of the project and potential to deliver impact and/or scalable solutions at the local, national and/or international level beyond the initial 12 months

8. Selection Process

UKRI will check the applications submitted through Je-S to ensure they have submitted all of the required documents. The funders will check that counterpart applications have been received by each relevant funder.

JST will check the applications submitted through e-Rad to ensure they have submitted all of the required documents. The funders will check that counterpart applications have been received by each relevant funder.

Once applications have been internally assessed by the funders for eligibility, applications will be assessed by a specially convened panel of experts nominated by JST, and DOST. UKRI shall not provide technical experts on the panel. UKRI shall provide their perspective on past work with the relevant researchers/projects for the panel. UKRI will provide information on the eligibility of projects and any additional information on the in-kind contributions. In principle UKRI will accept and support the decisions of the Japan- and Philippine-side experts. The panel will be asked to assess the proposals against the assessment criteria below. The panel will make formal recommendations to the funders. The funders may wish to apply some conditions on grants, and there may be subsequent negotiations on the details of the support offered

List of Evaluators

Name	Position and Institution
HARUYAMA Shigeko	Professor Emeritus, Mie University
ITO Kasumi	Associate professor, Nagoya University
TADA Chika	Associate professor, Tohoku University
NISHIO Masahiro	Innovation coordinator, National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology
MAKINO Mitsutaku	Professor, University of Tokyo