

Competition for funding

**Brazil-UK collaborative
industrial R&D competition**

**DEADLINE
7 December
2015**





Innovate UK and SENAI (the National Service for Industrial Training) of Brazil are to invest up to £3.4 million in collaborative industrial R&D projects that propose new commercial solutions to critical challenges impacting the socio-economic growth and development of Brazil in relation to its energy, water, and waste management.

The UK investment has been made possible through the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills-managed Newton Fund: www.newtonfund.ac.uk

The aim of the competition is to bring together companies, research organisations, academics and other collaborators from Brazil and the UK for the joint research and development of new solutions to key socio-economic challenges, in the form of innovative products, processes or services. The principal market a project must consider is Brazil.

Projects must be collaborative, involving both UK and Brazil participants. On the UK side, projects must be business-led but can involve other non-business partners. In Brazil, projects must be led by a company and involve at least one Operational Unit of SENAI (the Operational Units for this competition are the SENAI Innovation Institutes).

We expect to fund mainly industrial research projects. For UK participants, small or micro

businesses could receive up to 70% of their eligible project costs, medium-sized businesses 60% and large businesses 50%.

We expect total UK project costs to range in size from £350,000 to £400,000, and for projects to last up to 20 months.

The UK lead partner must submit an application on behalf of all UK participants in a project to Innovate UK. The Brazilian lead partner must submit an application on behalf of Brazilian participants to SENAI.

This is a two-stage competition that opens for applicants on 14 September 2015. The deadline for stage 1 applications is at noon UK time on 7 December 2015.

A briefing webinar for potential applicants will be held on 28 September 2015.

Background

The Newton Fund, which provides the foundation for this collaborative competition, was established in 2014 to strengthen science and innovation partnerships between the UK and

15 countries (including Brazil), with the aim of promoting the economic development and welfare of collaborating countries. The Fund forms part of the UK government's official development assistance to middle- and lower-income countries.

Innovate UK invests in sectors and technologies where we believe there is a global market opportunity for UK business innovation. Brazil, one of the world's most dynamic economies, presents a strong case for partnership and UK business engagement. It was the seventh largest economy in 2014 in nominal GDP terms (US\$2.3 trillion) and the largest in Latin America. Although it has witnessed a decline in GDP growth in recent years, from 2000 to 2012 it was one of the fastest-growing economies, averaging an annual growth rate of over 5%, surpassing that of the UK. The country is experiencing a degree of social and business change unlike many other countries – its trade driven by its extensive natural resources and diverse agricultural and manufacturing production.

The size, diversity and potential of Brazil's markets present significant opportunities for innovative UK businesses. For this reason, Innovate UK

is partnering with SENAI (www.portaldaindustria.com.br/senai/) in Brazil to run this competition. SENAI is a network of not-for-profit secondary-level professional schools, operated by the Brazilian Confederation of Industry. It provides formal specialised training for workers in various areas of industry. It has 809 operational units throughout Brazil, offering more than 1,800 courses. The services offered by SENAI to Brazilian industry are aimed at increasing its competitiveness at the local and global level.

Scope

This Newton Fund competition will support industrial research projects in energy, water, and waste management that can deliver innovative commercial solutions to the following challenge areas for Brazil.

Energy

Projects that look at access to energy and/or energy from waste, including:

- solutions to improve access to modern energy through mobile equipment for power generation in remote areas, ie off-grid and distributed generation
- solutions that utilise waste to generate power

Water

Projects that look at managing competing interests for water through water-efficient practices, including:

- solutions that reduce the amount of water used in manufacturing or utilise it more effectively, with fewer losses in the system
- solutions that reduce the use of water in products or consumer goods
- solutions that promote the rational use/reuse of water for society and the final customer
- solutions that monitor and control the wasteful usage of water for large urban centres and/or large manufacturing centres
- solutions to control and clean contaminated or residual waters or to recover water utilised in production processes

Waste

Projects that look at reducing waste, including:

- products designed for disassembly, recycling, reuse and remanufacture post-consumer
- products that will become inputs for the production of other products ('cradle to cradle')
- leaner production processes, which generate less waste
- solutions that will stimulate the adoption of sustainable consumption patterns by the end user

All projects should show the additional benefits of co-operation between the UK and Brazil. Projects should not only demonstrate high industrial relevance and commercial potential, but must also demonstrate that they will have a positive impact upon the economic development and social welfare of Brazil, beyond primary commercial interests. Proposals that do not demonstrate how they aim to further sustainable development (and thereby contribute to a reduction in poverty), or improve the welfare of Brazil's population, will be considered **out of scope**.

Funding allocation and project details

We have allocated up to £2 million* to fund UK participation in collaborative R&D projects that address the challenges outlined in the scope. SENAI has allocated the equivalent of £1.4 million in BRL to fund Brazilian participation.

Successful applicants can attract grant funding towards their eligible project costs. The percentage of costs that we pay varies, depending on the type of research being carried out and the type of organisation involved.

This competition is primarily focused on industrial research projects, for which small or micro businesses are eligible to receive up to 70% of their project costs as grant, medium-sized businesses 60% and large businesses 50%. For further information see <https://interact.innovateuk.org/funding-rules>

Projects must be collaborative and involve at least one UK business, one Brazilian business and one Operational Unit of SENAI in Brazil. The Operational

Units for this competition are the SENAI Innovation Institutes. On the UK side, projects must be led by a UK business. Other non-business UK partners, including research organisations, may participate as additional partners. The total of all research partner costs on the UK side cannot exceed 30% of the overall UK partner project costs.

We expect total UK project costs to range from £350,000 to £400,000, although projects outside this range may be considered if you contact Innovate UK to discuss before applying. Projects should last for up to 20 months.

We will consider applications that have work packages related to experimental development, as part of an overall focus on industrial research.

To view the Brazilian side of the application process, please see: www.portaldaindustria.com.br/senai/canal/sesi-senai-inovacao-home/

To find out if your business fits the EU definition of an SME, see: http://ec.europa.eu/growth/smes/business-friendly-environment/sme-definition/index_en.htm

* Please note that Innovate UK funding is subject to the result of the Government Spending Review in autumn 2015.

Looking for partners to work on your project? Go to <http://brazil-uk-newtonfund.meeting-mojo.com>

Each partner in a project can receive funding towards their project costs – the funding is a percentage of the total eligible project costs and varies, depending on the size and type of organisation and the type of research. For general guidance see: <https://interact.innovateuk.org/funding-rules> or watch our video (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cExDpxTL8JY>)

Brazil-UK collaborative industrial R&D competition

Application process

This is a two-stage competition that opens for applicants on **14 September 2015**. For UK applicants, there is no need to register for this competition.

Stage 1 – The UK lead applicant submits a Business Model Canvas (template supplied), with supporting two-minute video and three-slide MS PowerPoint presentation, which are assessed. The Brazilian partner will submit their application to SENAI.

Stage 2 – Selected applicants are invited to submit a full stage application for funding.

The deadline for stage 1 applications is at noon UK time on **7 December 2015**. The stage 2 deadline for invited applications is at noon UK time on **1 February 2016**.

Applications are assessed on individual merit by an independent panel of experts in both the UK and Brazil.

A briefing webinar for potential applicants will be held on **28 September 2015** to highlight the main features of the competition and explain the application process. **Applicants are strongly recommended to attend.**

More information

For more information and all the documents you need to read before you apply, including the *Guidance for Applicants*, go to the web page for this competition at <https://interact.innovateuk.org> and watch our applications process video (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=S-rnSpIMiPc>).

Key dates

Competition opens	14 September 2015
Deadline for stage 1 applications	noon UK time 7 December 2015
Stage 2 opens for invited applicants	5 January 2016
Deadline for stage 2 invited applications	noon UK time 1 February 2016

Looking for partners to work on your project?

Meeting Mojo allows all interested applicants to add a profile and then search for partners in a database specific to this Brazil-UK competition. When you find a potential partner, please message them via Meeting Mojo to discuss and determine whether you are a good match to apply as a project team for grant funding.

Please follow the link below and register, giving your full details. NOTE: It will take up to 24 hours to be approved by the site admin before you can search for partners.

Meeting Mojo: <http://brazil-uk-newtonfund.meeting-mojo.com>

Get help to understand the future market for your innovation before you apply at <http://horizons.innovateuk.org>

Help for SMEs to grow faster

Small businesses that combine the funding they receive from us with additional business support are more likely to grow faster. If you are an SME and receive funding through this competition, you will automatically gain access to a growth workshop, an online diagnostic and a growth expert to help you develop a growth plan. This may include coaching, mentoring and entrepreneurial skills training.

Publicity

As part of the application process all applicants are asked to submit a public description of the project. This should adequately describe the project but not disclose any information that may impact on intellectual property, is confidential or commercially sensitive. The titles of successful projects, names of organisations, amounts awarded and the public description will be published once the decision to offer an award has been communicated to applicants by email. Information about unsuccessful project applications will remain confidential and will not be made public. Email pressoffice@innovateuk.gov.uk with any queries.



Innovate UK is the UK's innovation agency. Innovate UK works with people, companies and partner organisations to find and drive the science and technology innovations that will grow the UK economy – delivering productivity, new jobs and exports. Our aim at Innovate UK is to keep the UK globally competitive in the race for future prosperity.

Innovate UK is the trading name of the Technology Strategy Board, which is an executive non-departmental public body sponsored by the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills, and incorporated by Royal Charter in England and Wales with company number RC000818. Registered office: North Star House, North Star Avenue, Swindon SN2 1UE.

Telephone: 01793 442 700
Email: support@innovateuk.gov.uk
www.innovateuk.gov.uk

Follow us on

© Technology Strategy Board September 2015
C15/CB040. Printed on 100% recycled paper.