

Workshop Title: Breeding and modelling underutilised crops for community resilience

UK coordinator: Dr Sean Mayes, University of Nottingham, UK

Partner Country coordinators: Prof Albert Modi, Deputy Vice-Chancellor and Head of College of Agriculture, Engineering & Science, University of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN), South Africa; and **Dr Alice Muchugi**, Scientist, World Agroforestry Centre, Nairobi, Kenya.

Discipline: *Crop Genetics, Crop Breeding, Crop Science*

Dates and venue: 9th – 13th July 2018 at Rabie Saunders Building, School of Agricultural, Earth and Environmental Sciences, University of KwaZulu-Natal, Scottsville, Pietermaritzburg, South Africa

<http://saees.ukzn.ac.za/Workshop.aspx>

The programme, 'British Council Researcher Links' provides opportunities for early career researchers from the UK and internationally to interact, learn from each other and explore opportunities for building long-lasting research collaborations.

As part of this programme, we are now inviting Early Career Researchers from the UK, Kenya and South Africa to apply to attend this workshop. All travel and accommodation expenses will be covered by the Researcher Links programme (**Application Deadline is 5th May 2018**).

The Workshop

Objective 1: To link ECRs from different countries and different disciplines to form 'multidisciplinary groups'

Objective 2: To evaluate across crops, by discipline.

Objective 3: To develop a plan for increasing uptake of each crop and the requirements to exploit genomics.

Objective 4: To compare the crop-specific examples and to develop a 'generic' framework approach for any underutilised crop.

Objective 5: To understand the importance of field-based analysis and the farmer contribution to identifying key trait requirements for improvement.

Objective 6: Career development, networking and mentoring sessions.

The workshop will provide a unique opportunity for sharing research expertise and networking. During the workshop, early career researchers will have the opportunity to present their research in the form of a poster and discuss this with established researchers from the UK, Kenya and South Africa. There will be a focus on building up links for future collaborations and participants selected based on their research potential and ability to build longer term links.

The British Council will cover the costs related to the participation to the workshop, including: travel (both international and local), accommodation and meals. Costs for the visa will be covered; however, participants will be responsible for making all the necessary arrangements. Although this cost will not be covered by the British Council, participants are encouraged to purchase an adequate travel and medical insurance. The British Council accepts no responsibility for any problems which may occur when the participants are in South Africa.

Further information and the application form can be obtained from:

<https://www.cpib.ac.uk/outreach/>

Completed application forms should be returned to the following email contacts: sean.mayes@nottingham.ac.uk; mabhaudhi@ukzn.ac.za; a.muchugi@cgiar.org

Application and Deadline:

The full application must be completed and submitted to sean.mayes@nottingham.ac.uk by the **5th May 2018**.

Eligibility Criteria:

- Applications must be submitted using the Researcher Links application form attached to this notice.
- Application must be submitted before the above deadline.
- Participants must be early career researchers: Early Career Researchers are defined as holding a PhD (or having equivalent relevant research experience for example working in the development context) and having up to 10 years post-PhD research experience. They are equivalent to the 'Recognised Researcher' and sometimes 'Experienced Researcher' categories in the EU framework for researchers' careers. http://ec.europa.eu/euraxess/pdf/research_policies/Towards_a_European_Framework_for_Research_Careers_final.pdf
- Participants must have a research or academic position (either a permanent post, research contract, or fellowship etc) at a recognised research institution either in the UK, in South Africa or Kenya.

Quality Assessment

- Experience and relevance of the applicant's research area to the workshop.
- Motivation and contribution to the aims of the workshop.
- Description of the long-term impact expected through the participation in the workshop.
- Ability to disseminate workshop's outcomes.

Selection Procedure:

- Eligibility check.
- Quality assessment.

Notification of results:

Applicants will be notified by email by the **17th May 2018**.

The British Council is committed to equal opportunities and diversity in all its activities and this includes the avoidance of any bias in the assessment of applications due to gender, disability, racial or ethnic origin, sexual orientation, or religious belief. Participants' selection undertaken by workshop organisers must not contravene this policy. Extra support to enable participation of early career researchers with special needs will be given.

Please see the link below for detail on British Council policies that relate to this work http://www.britishcouncil.org/new/about-us/jobs/folder_jobs/register-as-a-consultant/policies-for-consultants-and-associates/