Higher Education Innovation Fund (HEIF)

Social Sciences Knowledge Exchange Fellowships
Public and Community – Up to £25K

Call for Expressions of Interest (EOI) – Deadline: 20th July 2018, 5pm

Applications are welcomed from University of Oxford social sciences researchers.

Introduction
Expressions of Interest are sought for a new knowledge exchange scheme to support the development of mutually beneficial partnerships between researchers and the public and communities. This scheme aims to:

- Enable Fellows to develop skills and shape best practice in public and community engagement
- Raise the profile and recognition of public engagement with research
- Develop partnerships with Oxford’s local communities and communities elsewhere around the world
- Create positive impacts through working together with communities and members of the public

These Fellowships are aimed at researchers who would like to work closely with individuals, groups, young people and their families who do not have a formal relationship with a university, or with groups that have been established to support a particular community or cause. Partners might include: community groups, youth groups, special interest groups, community-led initiatives, charities and NGOs, social enterprises, local authorities and other public bodies.

Activities could support the public engaging with research at any stage – getting them involved in the design, conduct, or uptake of research. Researchers can take a combination of approaches to engaging the public with their research, including (but not limited to): collaborating with them, consulting them to seek their views on a topic or informing them of the findings of their research.

Fellowship proposals could include (but are not limited to):

- Gaining access to relevant groups and building relationships and partnerships with them
- Growing existing relationships with particular groups of the public/communities
- Impact-focused research-informed activities co-developed with the public/communities
- Listening to public/communities’ needs and engaging with them on a particular issue
- Co-developing research questions and co-productive project with the public/communities

Fellowships can either be outgoing (researchers spending time going out to work closely with partners) or incoming (public/community representatives spending time at Oxford) or mutual exchange.

Funding
There is a total of £50K available for this scheme.

- The maximum amount per Fellowship award is £25K.
- Funding can be spent between 01 October 2018 and 31 July 2019. No extensions will be possible.
- This funding is not for primary research.

How to apply
Applicants should complete the Expression of Interest (EOI) application form and return this via their departmental research support officer/facilitator to impact@socsci.ox.ac.uk by 5pm on 20 July 2018. After an initial review, researchers will be invited to submit full-stage applications, which will be due in September 2018 (exact timing TBC).

Support
If you would like support with public engagement plans, or have any queries about the application process, please contact impact@socsci.ox.ac.uk.