

ANNEX: Japan

Please use this Country Annex in addition to the standard International Partnering Awards guidelines.

Scope: Up to £50,000 is available over a period of 4 years. There are no restrictions on the scientific area for applications to the Japan Partnering Awards (other than that it must fall within our remit).

Highlights: International Partnering Award applications are particularly welcomed in the following highlight areas:

- **International Year of Plant Health – Partnerships which foster collaboration to protect and enhance plant health**

The United Nations General Assembly has declared 2020 as the International Year of Plant Health (IYPH). The UN describes IYPH as “a once in a lifetime opportunity to raise global awareness on how protecting plant health can help end hunger, reduce poverty, protect the environment, and boost economic development.”

Pests, diseases and weeds are major contributors to inefficiencies in agricultural production and pose serious and continuing threats to global food and nutrition security. Current control regimes face widespread resistance, environmental change is impacting on the spread of threats and some emerging and under researched pests and diseases lack effective control options. In response to this threat, this highlight supports international partnerships that develop research and capability to protect and enhance plant health.

This highlight is a global highlight and is open to partnerships with any country. BBSRC particularly encourages applications under this highlight with the following countries: Canada, China and Japan.

Applicants should also be aware of another related BBSRC funding opportunity.

- o [Transformative Research Technologies for the Detection and Diagnosis of Plant and Animal Diseases](#) (Tools and Resources Development Fund) (Call open, closing 8 October 2020); for applicants intending on developing technologies that will lead to a step change in the ability of researchers to investigate UK plant and animal health problems caused by endemic or emerging pathogens or pests.

- **International partnerships fostering a One Health approach to diseases of zoonotic origin**

Zoonotic diseases are capable of passing from animals to humans. The US Centre for disease control estimates that six out of every 10 infectious diseases in people are zoonotic and 3 out of every 4 new or emerging infectious diseases in people come from animals¹. As well as threatening human and animal health, zoonoses affect livestock production, causing economic and social harm globally.

¹ <https://www.cdc.gov/onehealth/basics/zoonotic-diseases.html>

In response to the threat, this highlight will support international partnerships with any country that develop research projects and capability taking a One Health² approach for improving our resilience to zoonotic diseases, which have the potential to cause significant social or economic impact. Applicants should explain the potential social or economic impact of their research in their case for support.

Applicants should also be aware of another related BBSRC funding opportunity:

- o [Transformative Research Technologies for the Detection and Diagnosis of Plant and Animal Diseases](#) (Tools and Resources Development Fund) (Call open, closing 8 October 2020); for applicants intending on developing technologies that will lead to a step change in the ability of researchers to investigate UK plant and animal health problems caused by endemic or emerging pathogens or pests.
- **Partnerships which foster collaboration between the UK and Japan in the field of Synthetic biology**

BBSRC is keen to promote collaboration between the UK and Japan in the field of Synthetic biology. Applications in all aspects of the field are invited, however applications are particularly encouraged in the following areas:

 - o Transformation, control and biosynthesis of plant systems and the discovery of plant derived molecules
 - o Novel tools, techniques and technology in synthetic biology
 - o Large-scale genome engineering.

Application Checklist: Please refer to this checklist in addition to the checklist in the standard guidance document.

✓ The project title starts with 'Japan Partnering Award:'

² <https://www.who.int/news-room/q-a-detail/one-health>