

24 February 2011
Our Reference: CP invite 2011



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in the United Kingdom

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Dear Dr Ward

Working with international partners: Commonwealth Professional Fellowships 2011

The Commonwealth Scholarship Commission is inviting potential UK host organisations to apply for the 2011 Commonwealth Professional Fellowships Scheme.

Commonwealth Professional Fellowships enable organisations in the UK to host visits from mid-career professionals from developing Commonwealth countries whose work is contributing to development in that country. UK organisations in the public, private and voluntary sectors are all eligible to apply for Commonwealth Professional Fellowships, which provide an opportunity for the exchange of knowledge, skills and good practice between the host organisation and up to six Fellows in the UK.

Commonwealth Professional Fellowships support programmes of professional development designed to have a catalytic effect in enhancing skills that will subsequently be applied in a developing Commonwealth country. Funding is available for programmes of between one and six months. Applications (for up to six Fellowships) are invited from host organisations, which are able to set up a programme and to identify suitable Fellows themselves. Commonwealth Professional Fellowships cover the full cost of travel to and from the UK, living expenses, some UK travel and other approved short course and conference expenses for the Fellow(s), and a contribution to host organisation costs of £800.

We believe that Commonwealth Professional Fellowships are not only advantageous for the Fellow(s), but that the host organisation also benefits from the opportunity to build and/or initiate collaborations with the Fellow's home employer and home country, in support of existing or new initiatives. The Fellowships also allow both parties to better understand each other's operations, to offer access to innovative ideas and approaches, and to develop new working practices.

The Commonwealth Professional Fellowships scheme is funded by the UK Department for International Development (DFID), and run by the Commonwealth Scholarship Commission in the UK (CSC).

The CSC seeks to publicise the Professional Fellowships scheme and its successes as widely as possible. Host organisations are listed in the CSC's Annual Report to the Secretary of State for International Development, which is laid before Parliament. We will also publish a full list on our website. Our regular magazine, *Commonwealth Scholarships News*, is distributed to current Commonwealth Scholars and Fellows, alumni and other stakeholders, and often features news

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Deputy Chair | Sir Brian Donnelly KBE, CMG
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stories about Professional Fellows. Case studies of Professional Fellows, during their stay in the UK and after they have returned home, regularly feature in our other communications, including our evaluation programme (which assesses the impact of our awards on wider society) and through our professional networks (which connect current and former award holders working in specific fields).

Further information about Commonwealth Professional Fellowships and how to apply can be found at www.cscuk.org.uk/apply/professional_fellowships.asp. A copy of our information leaflet for the Scheme as well as the 2011 prospectus is enclosed with this letter and is also available on our website, together with our online application form.

The first closing date in 2011 for applications to reach the Commission is **21 April 2011**. However, please note that we do plan to hold further selection rounds during the year – the closing dates for these will be advertised on our website.

Even if this is not of interest to your organisation directly, any assistance that you are able to provide in promoting these Fellowships among your members (if relevant) and external contacts is very much appreciated. If, however, you would prefer not to receive information about future awards, please do write to advise me (or email deborah.bennett@cscuk.org.uk).

With best wishes

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joe Kuddal". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'J'.

Dr John Kirkland
Executive Secretary

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