

Support Mechanisms for International Collaboration



Dr. Jennifer Mercer, US National Science Foundation

Program Manager for Arctic Research Support & Logistics
Program Officer for Arctic Sciences

Chair and US National POC, Forum of Arctic Research Operators (FARO)
Co-lead, Atmosphere Team, Interagency Arctic Research Policy Committee (IARPC)
2017 US Embassy Science Fellow – Denmark & Greenland

NSF Goals for International Engagement

Advance the FRONTIERS of Science and Engineering

- ACCESS to unique expertise, facilities, and phenomena
- LEVERAGE limited resources
- EXCHANGE insights and techniques
- ADDRESS national, transnational and global challenges

Prepare a GLOBALLY-ENGAGED U.S. S&E Workforce

- NURTURE capable young researchers with strong networks overseas
- DEVELOP a global perspective
- FACILITATE mobility and brain circulation

Typically, NSF funds the U.S.-side of international collaborations only

Internationally-focused Programs for Research & Education

- Partnerships for International Research and Education (PIRE) – OISE
- International Research Experiences for Students (IRES) – OISE
- International Research Experiences for Undergraduates (IREU) – NSF-wide
- Greenlandic researchers can seek out Fulbright fellowships, etc.
- Research Coordination Networks (RCN) and Research Networking Activities (RNA) to initiate new collaborations:
https://www.nsf.gov/publications/pub_summ.jsp?WT.z_pims_id=5521&ods_key=nsf16595
- Belmont Forum: <http://www.belmontforum.org>
- non-member countries can participate as partners for specific calls

Core Values for International Engagement

NSF supports international collaboration when it enhances proposed research and education.

- Intellectual partnerships and clear mutual benefit
- U.S. students and junior researchers internationally engaged
- Networks that link expertise and resources

NSF's "Navigating the New Arctic" initiative emphasizes on traditional knowledge, engagement of local communities:

<https://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2018/nsf18048/nsf18048.jsp>

NSF Funding for International Activities

Most international research and education activities are funded by NSF disciplinary programs:

- As part of regular awards in core programs, initiatives
- As supplements to regular awards

BIO

CISE

EHR

ENG

GEO

MPS

SBE

Exceptions for funding the non-US side of the Collaboration (sub-awards/contracts with Universities)

- Local (US) support is not feasible
- The non-US organization will carry out the activity more effectively
- The non-US organization contributes a unique organization, facilities, geographic location, and/or access to unique data resources
- US PIs organizing workshops can pay for travel/lodging/per diem for foreign researchers to give plenary/keynote talks at NSF-funded workshops

**Before including any type of support for a non-US organization in a proposal, we recommend that the US PI discuss plans with the Program Director for the program to which the proposal will be submitted.



Examples from Participants?