

Collaboration Building Workshop

2-13 November 2020

The SAQN will run an online Collaboration Building Workshop, with the aim of connecting network members with STFC researchers and funding new research ideas.

The online format will involve a mixture of scheduled sessions and unscheduled activities that participants can organise around their other commitments. Scheduled sessions will take place between 10:00 and 15:00 to enable participation for those with caring commitments.

Purpose

To offer a space for exploration of new research ideas and the application of STFC capabilities to air quality challenges, and to foster new collaborations that can develop further project ideas and apply for funding. We want to encourage participants to think innovatively about challenges and solutions in air quality.

We will be addressing the following question:

“How might we respond collaboratively to societal air quality challenges using Science and Technology Facilities Council capabilities to explore the potential of new research ideas?”

The work may be informed by the outputs from the [Network Launch Meeting](#) where the following air quality challenges were identified

- Ammonia – Challenges and Opportunities
- Sensors and Miniaturisation
- Machine Learning
- Indoor Air Quality Monitoring
- Integrating Data
- Behaviour Change
- Health Effects Monitoring and Data

We may also be informed by the May event on [Air Quality and COVID-19](#).

Who is it for?

Attendance at the workshop is open to all SAQN network members, including STFC staff, academics, those from industry and policy. There will be a competitive application process. Applications will be assessed against the criteria by the SAQN Leadership Management Group. The workshop will be particularly suited to Early Career Researchers.

We are looking for:

- people enthusiastic and able to communicate across disciplines and bring a range of perspectives
- a diversity of professional backgrounds
- participants who will be able to attend the whole event.

The SAQN will select a group of applicants based on:

- a good balance of STFC specialists and air quality experts and
- a range of career stages (early career researchers are particularly encouraged to apply).

SAQN is keen to attract the best potential researchers from a diverse population.

What will I get out of it?

- Develop your professional network outside of your own institution
- Participate in a supported, professionally facilitated process to develop new collaborations and ideas
- Benefit from input and feedback from peers and mentors
- Gain experience in developing funding proposals and pitches
- Potential to be a PI on a grant
- Learn more about innovative online meeting techniques to inform future online collaborations

Funding Opportunity

The SAQN is able to award grants of up to £8k to Scoping Study proposals that fit the funding criteria. Proposals that do not meet these criteria will not be eligible for funding, but the network will endeavour to signpost these projects to alternative funding sources.

Funding will be awarded during the workshop itself (up to six awards of max. £8k). Further information about Scoping Studies is available on the [network website](#).

Dates and practical information

Meeting platform: Primarily using Zoom, with other online technologies for capturing discussion points and ideas. It is preferable for participants to use Zoom through the app, rather than through a browser or on Chromebook as this limits functionality.

Collaboration Lab Agenda

Monday 2nd November Lab #1 10.00 – 13.00	Kick Off Session The focus will be on having conversations and getting to know each other whilst exploring the topic.
2-4 November 2 hours	Getting to Know You Challenge Exploring the topic and others in the group Completing interviews and uploading to the shared space
Thursday 5th November Lab #2 10.00-13.00	Challenges and Connections The aim of this session is to think innovatively about challenges and solutions in air quality and continue to foster collaborative connections.
5th to 9th November 2 hours	Sharing of initial “What if” ideas for small scale funding projects – linking to the key themes or going beyond these, commenting and voting on ideas submitted.
Tuesday 10th November Lab #3 12.30 – 15.00	Developing Challenge Ideas In this session you can share the most impactful of the ideas and start to develop thinking on these either in this session or afterwards.
10th to 12th November 4 hours	Idea owners can develop their ideas using the proposal outline and can involve others in the idea development and draft proposals are submitted on Thursday lunchtime.
Friday 13th November Lab #4 10.00 – 12.00 14.00 – 15.00	10.00 All ideas are presented to the whole group and short verbal/written peer feedback given in the morning session 14.00: Feedback Provided and Funding announced, next steps discussed and lab celebration
Lab Time: 12 hours Cafe Time: 8 hours	Lab Time is the dedicated fixed time sessions that you MUST attend for the time indicated in the programme. The cafe time will be a combination of individual activity and collaborative activity in pairs and small groups and you can schedule this to suit your needs but should expect to spend about 8-10 hours on these activities in total.

Cost: The workshop is free to attend for network members.

Timeline:

[Workshop attendance applications open:](#)

1 September 2020

Deadline for workshop applications:

30 September 2020

Announcement of successful workshop applications:

9 October 2020

Workshop dates:

2 - 13 November 2020

[Apply online for your place at the Collaboration Building Workshop](#)