

SIN Turkey boosts prosperity partnership: shifting gear with science & innovation



The successful **UK-Turkey Year of Science and Innovation (YoSI)** programme which ended in March 2016, delivered more than 50 events and reached over 1000 researchers, policy-makers and businesses, with events at leading UK and Turkish universities and research centres. It was led by SIN Turkey and BIS, with a strong British Council contribution,

Turkey represents an excellent opportunity for UK engagement on science and innovation. Turkey has doubled R&D spending in the last decade and the foundations for a stronger UK-Turkey relationship have been laid down, with cooperation supported by the Newton-Katip Celebi Fund¹.

Building on this, SIN Turkey delivered **a step-change in the breadth and depth of UK-Turkey science and innovation cooperation**. We worked with partners to roll out a year-long programme of focused activities aimed at creating new bilateral policy, research and commercial networks, and complementing Newton Fund activity. TUBITAK, the Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey, led Turkish YoSI support and participation.

While many prosperity outcomes are longer-term, we have already seen **a surge in capacity and desire to work together following the YoSI**. At least eight research partnerships, and several MOUs, are at different stages of agreement. Newton-Katip Celebi Fund fellowship applications and institutional research links have increased in number and quality. British Council “Science for All” talks attracted over a million viewers, showcasing UK science excellence and capability. The YoSI has been a springboard for S&I collaboration through the HMG Prosperity Fund programme now running in Turkey².



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¹ <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/the-newton-katip-celebi-fund-turkey>

² <https://www.gov.uk/government/world-location-news/turkey-prosperity-fund-call-for-project-proposals-is-now-open>