Sherdon Niño Uy, from Cauayan, Isabela is a research associate in energy efficiency based at the Manila Observatory in the Philippines.

Sherdon’s PhD research is focusing on wind energy resource assessment, which will be useful for the Philippines in order to support the decision-making processes for placement of small-scale wind turbines and for renewable energy investments in general. His research has been driven by the demand of clean energies as a new power source for urban areas, where there is a need of producing energy in order to benefit from decentralised power generation.

Sherdon hopes that his research will make a positive change for the economic development of the Philippines and for future generations.

Sherdon got in touch with UUK’s Student Support Service team in July 2015 when the British Council Philippines opened the ‘Newton-DOST PhD Scholarships’ call.

Sherdon told us his story:

‘I first found out about the Newton Fund from my mentor back in the Philippines. He told me to start preparing for it and that I should look up prospective universities and professors in the UK.

“When the call for PhD scholarships was opened for my country, I contacted the universities on my list and also Universities UK International (UUKi), when I saw that it assists prospective students in finding placement for the programme.

‘It was UUKi who matched my interest with the Knowledge-Based Engineering Lab of Birmingham City University.

‘They put me in touch with them and because of that my application progressed quickly. I got accepted in the university and was given a scholarship by the DOST-Newton Fund PhD Scholarship programme.

‘I do hope UUKi Student Support Service will continue for as long as the Newton Fund programme is on-going. It certainly helped me in many ways and I believe that it will help many others. Thank you once again.’

‘UUKI PUT ME IN TOUCH WITH BIRMINGHAM CITY UNIVERSITY AND BECAUSE OF THAT MY APPLICATION PROGRESSED QUICKLY. I GOT ACCEPTED IN THE UNIVERSITY AND WAS GIVEN A SCHOLARSHIP.’