

## Section A: Official Development Assistance (ODA) and GCRF strategy

### The strategy

1. Summarise the key aspects of your three year **strategy for development related and GCRF research activity**, including:
  - a. Your institution's strategy and priority objectives for all development related research activity funded through all sources for three years from 2018-19.
  - b. A summary of the key aspects of your three year strategic plan for QR GCRF, in light of the criteria and objectives for the GCRF outlined in the guidance.
  - c. How activity funded through QR GCRF fits into your broader strategy and priorities for all development related research activity.
  - d. How activity funded through QR GCRF relates to the UK strategy for the GCRF.<sup>1</sup>
  - e. How your development-related and GCRF strategies relate to your wider institutional strategy for using QR.
  - f. Likely key barriers and enablers to implementing your strategy.
  - g. The key activities by which you will realise your objectives, such as capacity and capability building; mono-disciplinary, interdisciplinary and collaborative research; generating impact from research; meeting the full economic cost of GCRF activity funded through other sources; rapid response to emergencies with an urgent research need; and pump priming.
  - h. The main developing countries, included in the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) list, which you intend to collaborate with.

Maximum 3,000 words

**a. Your institution's strategy and priority objectives for all development related research activity funded through all sources for three years from 2018-19.**

*City, University of London: A leading global university committed to academic excellence, focused on business and the professions and located in the heart of London.*

The plan for research and enterprise at City, University of London, as set out in the University's Vision & Strategy 2026, is a vision for significant growth in the reputation of the quality and output, and of the contribution made to wider society, both locally and globally. A key element of this is to engage City's strengthening research excellence with GCRF research activity, and link City's distinctive research strengths to development-

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<sup>1</sup> UK Strategy for the Global Challenges Research Fund,  
<http://www.rcuk.ac.uk/funding/gcrf/challenges/>

related research through partner institutions in the University of London and through membership of the London International Development Centre.

Related to these partnerships, and in line with the UK Strategy for GCRF, we want to promote challenge-led disciplinary and interdisciplinary research, and we do so by the creation of a diverse group of challenge-based and interdisciplinary research centres. These Centres reflect the current research agendas of our University and are the major fulcrum for raising external research funding. Research centres are important as they build a 'Community of Scholars' around the topic as well as providing an important link between theoretical research and the practical needs of business and community organisations. Current research centres which address international development issues include: The [Emerging Markets Group](#); [ETHOS: The Centre for Responsible Enterprise](#); [Minorities and Rights Research Group](#); [Centre for Food Policy](#); [Centre for Charity Effectiveness](#) and [Global Public Health Group](#).

City recently joined the London International Development Centre (LIDC) which facilitates interdisciplinary research and activities to tackle complex problems in international development and strives to create a network of interdisciplinary researchers. The LIDC offers researchers many opportunities to collaborate with colleagues around the Global Research Challenge Fund calls which are currently out. LIDC is leading at least six Hub and Network bids on different topics (e.g. public private finance in emerging economies, mental health) and is looking for academic colleagues from across its institutions to be involved.

Through national and international collaboration City will seek to benefit from new funding streams including the Global Research Challenge Fund and The Newton Fund. This builds on success, particularly with the Newton Fund, in the first few years of its existence. An example of this is Professor Azizur Rahman (City UL) and Professor S Asokan of the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore who were awarded £500k to create innovative low-cost optical sensor platforms for water quality monitoring.

We believe that we have particular advantages when it comes to delivering on our strategic commitments in relation to development related research activity being one of the most international universities in the world City was ranked 7th in the world for 'international outlook' in a global league tables published in the *Times Higher Education* magazine in 2017. City is a founding member of World Cities World Class Universities (WC2), a network of leading universities located in world cities. City has a physical presence in Middle East through its Dubai Office and a (new) Internationalisation Strategy put us in an excellent position in which to respond to the challenges presented by international development and GCRF.

Finally, we have introduced the annual President's Awards to recognise and celebrate the outstanding contribution of our staff in establishing City as a leading global university. In support of our global ambition the *President's Award for International Project of the Year* rewards staff who are working on important projects beyond Europe. The work of

recent winners has addressed significant issues in developing countries including projects on housing, healthcare, education, land reform, free expression, actions against the police, and environmental law work.

**b. A summary of the key aspects of your three year strategic plan for QR GCRF, in light of the criteria and objectives for the GCRF outlined in the guidance.**

The strategic plan for the Global Challenges Research Fund at City, University of London involves close to fifty academic staff and researchers from across the University. See projects listed in ANNEX A2. Participants come from physical sciences and engineering, health sciences, business, management studies and entrepreneurship, economics and finance, law, international politics, and sociology. We also collaborate with other networks and groups whose work engages global challenges, most notably through the London International Development Centre.

City's three year strategic plan for QR GCRF addresses problems in the following sectors, which correlate with the major themes of international development (and with the Millennium Development Goals). These are: business innovation and entrepreneurship, cities and urbanisation, education, food security, gender equality, health including public health and reproductive health, human rights, journalism and democracy, NGO management, philanthropy, responses to natural disaster, social movements, water and sanitation, and cultural and creative industries.

City's QR GCRF strategic plan takes seriously the most important requirement of the Fund and the most difficult to do. That is for universities to endeavour to create equitable partnerships between researchers, practitioners and policy-makers in both developed and developing countries through QR GCRF-funded activities.

We have also made sure that our QR GCRF strategy doesn't conflate its approach too closely with that of City wanting to have successful 'global engagement strategies' or because it aspires to be a 'leading global university...'. We make this point because our institutional global engagement strategy puts City, University of London at the heart of that whereas the Global Challenges Research Fund puts the problems faced by developing countries at the heart of its strategy.

**c. How activity funded through QR GCRF fits into your broader strategy and priorities for all development related research activity.**

To begin with, the introduction of QR GCRF significantly bolsters our broader strategy for development-related research activity. It offers City an exciting opportunity, for the first time, to bring together the work done in schools and research centres into an institutional strategy for research aimed at tackling the problems faced by developing countries.

To ensure that QR-GCRF is spent according to ODA principles we will fund only those activities that aim to have direct impacts on developing countries. We expect our researchers to connect directly with beneficiary countries in relation to research about 'tangible' products or services that can be taken up by policymakers, agents, NGOs or practitioners.

However, as an institution we know that our strategy for development research also needs to include internal enabling strategies such as raising awareness of the importance of research that will address problems of developing countries in the first place. We will look to change reward structures for academics engaged in GCRF-type work and for those who form partnerships with ODA listed countries. City will also create new and bolster existing internal structures to encourage staff to take on challenge-led research.

One vital enabler to our development-related research strategy is the *London International Development Centre (LIDC)* which City recently joined. The LIDC facilitates interdisciplinary research and activities to tackle complex problems in international development and create a network of interdisciplinary researchers. It brings together academics and students from across the various University of London colleges and includes some of the best development-related scholarship in the UK.

#### **d. How activity funded through QR GCRF relates to the UK strategy for the GCRF.**

The activities that we intend to fund with QR GCRF are will be consistent with ODA principles and the UK Strategy for GCRF more generally.

1. The activities will focus on challenge-led disciplinary and interdisciplinary research with strong engagement and collaboration with local partners.
2. They will tackle problems associated with ensuring that everyone across the globe has access to: food, health care, health education, water quality and sanitation, and affordable and sustainable energy. Examples from ANNEX A2 include project 26 which aims to reduce neonatal mortality due to infections in LIMCs, such as India; and project 7 which supports India in implementing the innovative technologies to protect drinking or waste water supplies.
3. They will also tackle problems associated with economic development and income distribution by tackling issues such as corporate responsibility by Western businesses in developing countries, microfinancing, banking regulation in developing countries, and intellectual property rights protection. Examples from ANNEX A2 include project 11 which examines how DAC countries with volatile capital flows can best manage monetary and macro-prudential regulation, and project 5 which contributes to the development of an Intellectual Property policy for Mexican universities that supports social innovation and creates spin-out companies.

4. The activities will inform the process of improving human rights, good governance and social justice in developing countries by carrying out engaged scholarship on gender inequality, protracted conflict studies, human rights law, international security studies, forced displacement and refugee crises. Examples from ANNEX A2 include project 9 which assists the UNHCR in Lebanon and Jordan in developing a “resettlement risks model” to guide future resettlement practice, and project 22 which offers the Nepalese government mechanisms to translate socio-economic rights from the new constitution into practice.

5. We will ensure that the activities are underpinned by excellent research and researchers. Only activities by scholars capable of carrying out research that is capable of being published which is suitable for publication in the highest-rated academic journals in the field - (ones that apply stringent peer-review process prior to accepting articles for publication and which are listed in Annex A2) will be accepted.

6. The activities will all aim at making an impact, through knowledge exchange, to improve social welfare, economic development, and environmental sustainability in developing countries.

**e. How your development-related and GCRF strategies relate to your wider institutional strategy for using QR.**

The QR-GCRF is a welcome addition to the 'Quality-Related' research funding mechanism and will enable City and its academic staff to address the problems faced by developing countries much more fully than ever before. It also encourages academic staff who until now haven't focused on GCRF to consider translating their knowledge in the context of developing countries.

What mainstream QR block grant does is to build the research infrastructure of the university in the so that knowledge is created in the first place. Without this knowledge translation cannot occur or be put to good use.

At City, mainstream QR block grant is used to build the research infrastructure which means developing current academic staff and recruiting new staff to existing areas of world-leading research. Complementing this is the establishment and nurture of international networks and research partnerships which support international collaboration.

In collaboration with Schools, City is investing mainstream QR into areas of expertise that will extend its world leading profile in research themes which address current global challenges, aligned with governmental priorities and enable the University to attract national and international interdisciplinary funding. Examples include public policy and finance; creativity and innovation; fundamental approaches to emerging technologies;

ageing; data science, innovation in healthcare services and delivery, and studies of gender and sexuality.

City is also using QR to increase the disciplinary breadth of research with the introduction of new disciplines and a broadening of the interdisciplinary nature of the research portfolio. This will increase its capacity for world-leading and internationally excellent research within the scope of potential new Units of Assessment in REF2021. Examples include Architecture, Built Environment and Planning; English Language and Literature; Education; Environmental Studies; and History.

It is encouraging that researchers from all current major disciplines within City submitted GCRF projects for inclusion in ANNEX A2.

#### **f. Likely key barriers and enablers to implementing your strategy.**

The **barriers** could include:

1. Limited or poor evidence detailing priority institutions with which to establish deep institutional research linkages. In light of this the best available alternative is to let researchers form their own individual-level partnerships.
2. Time investments needed for establishing collaborative/ and interdisciplinary partnerships on the ground, with pressure to show results being overtaken by crudely-assessed impact agendas that expect immediate benefits.
3. Departure of key contacts/collaborating NGOs etc. We know that NGOs often adopt a project-based organisational structure and that their personnel transfer regularly to obtain experience.
4. Country-wide security and safety issues. This is as much a problem for the local partners as well as for the incoming HEI staff. Back in the UK, obtaining the correct security clearance and insurance cover can be issues too.
5. Differing perspectives among stakeholders on what counts as 'economic development' and what counts as 'welfare' – two aspects that may cut across each other, e.g. for particular sub groups of population, such as youth.
6. Institutional governance problems across partnerships (relative responsibilities on each side, safeguarding issues, project direction and choices, changing legitimacy of collaborators, accountability questions).
7. Currency risk and fluctuations, changing cross border access rules, external funding rules – GCRF and development-type funding in DAC countries – all of which affect sustainability.

8. Disparities of opportunity for local Partner researchers e.g. at disadvantage regarding race, gender, age, faith.

9. Balance of research and publication interests of the academic researchers versus the engagement and impact emphasis of GCRF/ODA eligibility criteria.

The **enablers** could include:

1. The institution's strategy for development-related research activity builds on existing expertise in relevant areas of scholarship, grant management and accountability track record.

2. The strategy is consistent with, and benefits from, the recently presented *Vision and Strategy 2026 for City, University of London* which emphasises 'partnership working internationally, within London and through the University of London' 'the creation of new knowledge' and the contribution that City makes to the global good of society.

3. City has a strong record of engaged scholarship, working with practitioners and knowledge co-production which focus on making organisational impact rather than purely scholarly impact. Many staff already have relevant academic network memberships and research partnerships.

4. City already has a number of centres and clusters which focus on development research. These include: The [Emerging Markets Group](#); [ETHOS: The Centre for Responsible Enterprise](#); [Minorities and Rights Research Group](#); [Centre for Food Policy](#); [Centre for Charity Effectiveness](#) and [Global Public Health Group](#).

5. Pre-existing partnerships in development contexts where trust is already well established, e.g. World Congress of Muslim Philanthropists; with in-country contexts, previous work with NGOs, local universities, regional offices of international economic organisations and philanthropic foundations.

6. City's academic staff are committed to producing research that addresses the challenges faced by developing countries. A search of City's publications in *Web of Science* finds over 300 research publications on DAC-listed countries for the period 2011-18.

**g. The key activities by which you will realise your objectives.**

The majority of activities to be funded with QR-GCRF are mono-disciplinary, interdisciplinary and collaborative research, along with projects aimed at generating impact from that research. There are also a few pump-priming initiatives aimed at laying the ground for future development and research activities. Only one project is a rapid

response to emergencies with an urgent research need and that relates to Syrian Refugee Resettlement.

We have chosen not to fund GCRF capacity building activities in the UK in 2018-19 such as hiring professional staff to support ODA-eligible research. We believe instead the funds are best spent on academic-led research projects that have sound engagement with local countries. We feel that our academic staff are best placed to develop their own partnerships and to address the challenges faced by developing countries - and don't need much by way of institutional infrastructure to enable this to happen. However, City does plan to invest some resource in institutional capacity building activities in support of GCRF in years 2019-20 and 2020-21.

**h. The main developing countries, included in the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) list, which you intend to collaborate with.**

The list of beneficiaries consist of low and middle income countries based on gross national income (GNI) per capita as published by the World Bank as well as several of the Least Developed Countries.

Least Developed Countries: Afghanistan, Angola, Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Chad, Comoros, Ethiopia, Gambia, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mozambique, Nepal, Niger, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Tanzania, Uganda, Yemen, and Zambia.

Other Low Income Countries: Kenya and Zimbabwe.

Lower Middle Income Countries and Territories: Cameroon, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, Ghana, Honduras, India, Kosovo, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Pakistan, Paraguay, Philippines, Syrian Arab Republic, Uzbekistan, and The West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Upper Middle Income Countries and Territories: Argentina, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Gabon, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mexico, Montenegro, Namibia, Peru, Serbia, South Africa, Turkey, and Uruguay.

2. Provide details of the main intended **outcomes and impacts** of your strategy.

ANNEX A2 Project number in (brackets)

**Economic, commercial, organisational impacts:**



- (5) Contributes to the development of an Intellectual Property policy for Mexican universities which will support social innovation and help create spin-out companies.
- (6) Helps policy makers and practitioners in Peru, China, India, and Kenya by offering them enhanced knowledge of the role of emerging indigenous business models.
- (11) Examines how DAC countries with volatile capital flows can best manage monetary and macro-prudential regulation.
- (12) Examines whether information sharing among lenders increases access to finance and how it affects loan terms for borrowers in Brazil.
- (13) Explores the effects of the financial crisis on Brazilian banks and identify which types of banks were resilient to the financial shock.
- (14) Analyses the effect of credit market competition on the probability of switching and the loan terms of switching loans, using the Tanzanian credit registry data.
- (18) Helps to build better innovation ecosystems in DAC countries, primarily, Kenya, Uganda, and Ghana.
- (21) Aims to improve cocoa production in Côte d'Ivoire as a result of the improvement of living conditions in farming communities.
- (23) Will encourage investors to invest more in the bond markets of Sub-Saharan nations which will enable these countries to drive economic growth.
- (32) Aims to improve Infrastructure delivery projects in Kenya, Tanzania, Ghana, Zimbabwe, Botswana, and South Africa.
- (37) Addresses food producer poverty in Colombia by providing an outlet for their goods in neighbouring urban centres.

**Impacts on the environment:**

- (7) Supports India in implementing the innovative technologies to protect drinking or waste water supplies.
- (8) Assists the Malaysian National Security Council deal with landslide and mud flow issues in the Cameron Highland region by using a new fibre optic sensor solutions.
- (17) Offers Malaysia a new approach to soil and slope analysis to determine 'land health' thus enabling timely warnings of landslide to be given and action taken.
- (20) Examines the factors holding back establishing a resilient rail transport network that underpin future social-economic progress in places such as China, Afghanistan, Kazakhstan, Pakistan and Uzbekistan.
- (27) Will help Malaysia find alternatives to lead (Pb) in the electronic devices that will contribute to solving this environmental and health problem of huge significance.
- (35) Contributes towards more ecologically sustainable fishing practice in the South-Western African countries bordering the Benguela Current Large Marine Ecosystem.

**Health and welfare impacts:**

- (1) Contributes to the development of sustainable care to reduce the burden of disease in Uganda.
- (2) Contributes to the alleviating the burden of mental disorders by expanding access to care in a range of upper middle income countries.
- (19) Assesses the feasibility of implementing midwife-led birth centres in Malawi.
- (24) Helps policymakers and planners to develop data-driven and evidence-based programmes for promoting adolescent sexual and reproductive health in Ghana.
- (26) Aims to reduce neonatal mortality due to infections in LIMCs, such as India.
- (28) Helps support eye care provision for people with disabilities in India.
- (30) Offers Bangladesh a low cost preventive therapy to reduce the severity of antibiotic resistance drugs as well as to reducing their health care costs.
- (33) Offers healthcare practitioners in India a method of early detection of vision changes in people of risk of developing diabetes.
- (36) Aims to improve the health of citizens through better nutrition in Brazil
- (38) Tackles the problem of food insecurity in parts of South Africa by developing strategies for improving food system governance in the country.

**Impacts on public policy, law and services:**

- (3) Supports *African Risk Capacity* member states in improving their capacities to better plan, and respond to extreme weather events and natural disasters.
- (5) Contributes to the development of an Intellectual Property policy for Mexican universities that supports social innovation and creates spin- out companies.
- (9) Assists the UNHCR in Lebanon and Jordan in developing a “resettlement risks model” to guide future resettlement practice.
- (10) Aims to shape or influence policy for, and practices of, peace and development corporations in Colombia.
- (15) Supports the authorities in India in to forecasting the costs of natural disasters for a 5- to 10-year decision horizon.
- (16) Encourages philanthropic foundations to participate in resources discussion and accountability exercises, giving new opportunities to examine spending practices in developing countries.
- (22) Offers the Nepalese government mechanisms to translate socio-economic rights from the new constitution into practice.
- (25) Provides a conceptual understanding and evidence of success and failures from past developmental programmes in India.
- (34) Supports lawyers who are defending clients facing the death penalty in Pakistan with better advice and training.

(39) Proposes a framework for addressing the c.800 current conflicts involving the extractive industries and communities impacted by extractive activity in DAC countries.

**Impacts on creativity, culture and society:**

(4) Advances understanding of contemporary Brazilian feminisms, online networks, and social movements which may influence politicians, journalists and charities.

(29) Benefits people affected by humanitarian crises by supporting the production of trustworthy information about these crises.

(31) Supports the building of an inter-disciplinary research network on Migration, Displacement and Resilience in Afghanistan, Pakistan, India and Bangladesh.

**Management of GCRF**

3. How will your HEI **monitor** and **evaluate** its progress and compliance in ODA and GCRF activity, including assessing geographical distribution of activity, outputs, outcomes and economic and social impacts?

Please describe the policies, procedures and approach you have in place to measure progress, evaluate outcomes, identify lessons learned, and ensure ODA compliance.

Maximum 1,500 words

**Leadership**

The monitoring and evaluation of activities funded by QR-GCRF is led by The Vice President for Research & Enterprise, Professor Andrew Jones, whose own research interests focus on the global economy, including firms, governing organisations and the activities of key individuals.

**The GCRF Strategy Group**

City is in the process of setting up a GCRF Strategy Group to help it coordinate institutional activity and to advise the Senate Research & Enterprise Committee on issues relating to the UK Global Challenges Research Fund. The Group is designed to help the University and its senior leadership team organise for and respond to opportunities from the UK GCRF.

GCRF Strategy Group will agree internal allocation criteria, processes and mechanisms for any GCRF institutional awards and set both eligibility criteria and research quality criteria in relation to those funding allocations.

The Group will also direct the University in its engagement with key external stakeholders (including international stakeholders) relating to GCRF relevant research, and will signpost or assist individual researchers when they are engaging with external

stakeholders, such as business, industry, NGOs, philanthropic foundations and international governmental agencies.

The Group will receive regular updates on research activities relevant to the GCRF funds that were allocated to schools and individual researchers.

**Research support services and administration of QR-GCRF activities:**

City will provide sound administrative support to ensure that project spend is undertaken according to the funder's terms and conditions and within the project lifetime. We will do this by allocating an appropriate separate finance code for each project so expenditure can be tracked and reported on, by identifying any currency exposure and considering how this will be managed, by briefing lead researchers on financial requirements of the project, analysing spend and checking that it is 'in line' with funders' terms and conditions, and by monitoring expenditure against the project budget and preparing reconciliations.

We will also provide sound administrative support to ensure that recruitment and appointment of researchers who support our academic staff is efficient and effective. We will do this by producing a 'cost forecast' to ensure that funds are available for new posts, advising on appropriate grade and salary, checking the candidate's eligibility for contract, including Border Agency compliance, advising on UK/EU policy (redundancy, fixed term directive, etc.), keeping funders informed of any changes which may affect the duration of the grant, and advising the lead researcher on end of contract/redundancy procedures.

Finally, we will ensure the production of an accurate report that meets all funder's requirements and is delivered to deadline. We will do this by carrying out the following activities: communicating with researchers and other colleagues regarding reporting requirements; capturing relevant data at central and local level that need to be reported upon; ensuring that the report is 'signed off' at the institutional level; and coordinating inputs to the report from various parts of the university.

**Assessing geographical distribution of activity**

City's GCRF Strategy Group will allocate GCRF funding to researchers with eligible projects. This includes checking that projects have passed the GCRF criteria: First, that projects should be primarily of benefit to the problems of developing countries, and secondly, that the researchers should be working with and supporting development in countries and territories on the 'DAC list of ODA recipients'.

The GCRF Strategy Group will also pay regard to the goal set out in the *UK Strategy for the Global Challenges Research Fund* the special need to address the development challenges of the Least Developed Countries and Other Low Income Countries when making its funding decisions.

**GCRF related outputs**

All outputs within the scope of the HEFCE Policy for Open Access in the post-2014 Research Excellence Framework are now routinely deposited into the City's institutional publications repository in full text form in conformance with the HEFCE Policy, i.e. as soon after the point of acceptance as possible, and no later than three months after this date. This general policy will ensure that publications arising from QR GCRF funded projects are made available to readers on a global basis and without restriction.

#### **Project outcomes and the monitoring of impacts**

Staff applying for QR GCRF funding need to include a brief pathway to impact statement that describes key milestones during the project and ways they plan to measure the success of the impact activities. For example, monitoring and evaluating the impact objectives every few months, seeking opinions from partners using stakeholder surveys, collecting website statistics and impact activity data and seeking testimonies at the end of key activities to determine if the needs of user communities have been met.

Monitoring and reporting impacts: Towards the end of each funding period staff in receipt of QR GCRF funding will be sent a short monitoring form asking them to record the activities, expenditure and evidence of impact. The forms will be reviewed by the GCRF Strategy Group and any concerns will go back to the lead investigator and possibly the relevant Head of Department. The information collected about the projects will form the basis of a report back to the funder.

The GCRF Strategy Group will keep in mind that the size of the awards being funded are small (£20,000 or less) and the impacts will therefore likely be commensurate.

### **Section B: Use of QR GCRF 2018-19 allocation and future QR GCRF priorities**

4. Please complete the table in Annex A2 detailing the expected spending and activities for QR GCRF in the academic year 2018-19. Note that the total QR GCRF spending must equal the indicative allocation (available in Annex C), and all activities must be ODA-compliant for strategies to be assessed as ODA-compliant overall.

5. Please add here any explanatory notes on how you have completed the table in Annex A2 that will help inform assessment of ODA compliance.

No explanatory notes required.

6. How would your **priorities and activities** for 2018-19 QR GCRF change if the funding level differs from that outlined in indicative allocations? Please include detail of

how priorities will change with increases and decreases to QR GCRF funding, and details of how each priority meets ODA criteria.

Maximum 500 words

The priorities for 2018-19 QR GCRF are academic-led projects of various types, including, capacity and capability building; mono-disciplinary, interdisciplinary and collaborative research; generating impact from research; as well as pump-priming activities for future larger projects.

All projects in the spreadsheet Annex A2 fit with the GCRF criteria (GCRF criteria 1. primarily of benefit to the problems of developing countries; and criteria 2. Researchers are working with and supporting development in countries and territories on the 'DAC list of ODA recipients')

All projects listed in Annex A2 are due to commence over the next 12-18 months.

The 2018-19 projects are listed in the spreadsheet Annex A2 in order of priority. If QR GCRF **funding decreased** then the projects nearest the bottom of Annex A2 would be cut first.

If QR GCRF **funding increased** above the indicative level then we would fund projects from our reserve list of GCRF eligible projects. If after that there was still funds available we would put out a second call for proposals to our faculty staff inviting them to submit more ODA-eligible project proposals.

City's Reserve List of QR GCRF Activities (selected projects only)

1. Integrated Optical sensor-based fire early warning and protection systems in India and Malaysia.
2. A study of the levels and direction of Muslim's Zakat giving in selected countries, e.g. Malaysia
3. Better informed policy formulation during banking regulatory reform (e.g., adoption of Basel III measures aimed to strengthen the regulation, supervision and risk management of the banking sector) and cross-border supervisory cooperation. (DAC countries: Multiple)
4. Nascent financial markets: Most developing countries face a severe long-term finance gap. Capital markets, especially stock exchanges, have often been as one important tool to increase long-term funding. This research informs policy makers about conditions for a successful stock exchange. (DAC countries: Multiple)

7. Based on indicative funding allocations, what are your **priorities** for QR GCRF activity in 2019-20? Please include detail of how priorities will change with increases and decreases to QR GCRF funding, and details of how each priority meets ODA criteria.

Maximum 1,000 words

The priorities for QR GCRF activity in 2019-20 will change to some extent. Whereas we plan to fund only academic-led projects of various types with the 2018-19 QR GCRF we plan to divert some funding into institutional capacity building activities during 2019-20.

#### **Academic-led projects**

We will use the majority of the QR-GCRF to fund academic-led projects for the same reason we funded them in 2018-19. Academic staff by themselves are best placed to have the research insights and, through partnership, have the expertise in applying these insights in real settings to affect change in the local country settings.

Some projects funded in 2018-19 will receive follow-on funding in 2019-20 subject to them making sufficient progress towards their objectives at the end of year one, as judged by the project report which will be assessed by City's GCRF Strategy Group.

We will set up an institutional GCRF Research and Impact Fund to support research that meet the GCRF criteria – work that is primarily of benefit to the problems of developing countries; and where the researchers are working with and supporting development in countries and territories on the 'DAC list of ODA recipients'. In addition we will prioritise projects that develop new and novel engagement methods, activities or impact strategies.

#### **Capacity building activities**

City will use some QR GCRF to invest in people capacity to support the delivery of ODA-eligible research, outcomes and impacts in the UK and developing countries, such as:

1. Employing a part-time GCRF Partnerships Manager to coordinate GCRF and associated cross-disciplinary research-related initiatives designed to enhance the societal relevance and policy impact of City's research addressing global challenges in developing countries.
2. Organising an external speaker series on global challenges, development studies and the UN's Sustainable Development Goals in order to invigorate the current research agendas of relevant research centres and clusters at City. These events may be organised in collaboration with the London International Development Centre.
3. Encouraging academic staff to work on grand-challenges by 'break down more walls' at City to interdisciplinary work that is focused on GCRF objectives. We would like to create forums where academics from science and engineering departments are

encouraged to form interdisciplinary links across the university with social scientists that might result in more ways of tackling global challenges.

4. Offering prizes and recognition to the academic (team) that is judged to have achieved the best GCRF funded project. The prize would be in the form of enhanced follow on funding.

Finally, we confirm that the QR-GCRF for 2019-20 will only be spent to strengthen capacity for research and innovation in the UK and developing countries by supporting excellent research and researchers to address challenges faced by developing countries.

8. Based on indicative funding allocations, what are your **priorities** for QR GCRF activity in 2020-21? Please include detail of how priorities will change with increases and decreases to QR GCRF funding, and details of how each priority meets ODA criteria.

Maximum 1,000 words

The priorities for QR GCRF activity in 2020-21 are the same as 2019-20.



