

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. 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.¹
 - 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 Development Assistance Committee (DAC) list developing countries you intend to collaborate with.

Oxford Brookes University Strategy for Development-related and Global Challenges Research Activity 2018-2021

a. Strategy and Priority Objectives

Our university-wide strategic goal of being 'committed to international and world-leading research that is exploited and disseminated for the benefit of our communities' encompasses our development-related and Global Challenges research activities through three priority objectives that aim to enhance the contribution of our research towards addressing global challenges and achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG):

1. To pursue and support the highest quality, challenge-led, development-related disciplinary and interdisciplinary research;

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

2. To strengthen capacity for research, innovation and knowledge exchange through equitable and long term collaboration and partnership with academic communities in developing countries; and
3. To make a positive impact on the economic development, health and welfare needs of developing countries.

Our contribution to the strategic objectives of the UK GCRF and **SDG will focus on four themes** where we have a track record of research excellence and collaboration with partners in DAC-listed countries, on which to build long term, sustainable developments and meaningful impact:

1. Sustainable health and well-being
2. Sustainable cities and communities
3. Resilience and action on short-term environmental shocks and long-term environmental change
4. Dynamics between long term development (to reduce poverty, gender inequality and promote peace and justice) and short term humanitarian assistance in conflict settings

Our development and GC research activities will be overseen by a **GC Steering Group** (GCSG), reporting to the PVC Research & Global Partnerships. We will appoint four senior colleagues to lead each of our four themes. To enhance our development-related and GC research, and its impact, we will host a series of events and activities across the University and will also develop a package of support measures for researchers to assist them in being successful in Newton, GCRF and other development-related funding applications.

Our development and GC strategy will be delivered through our Research Centres and Groups:

Oxford Centre for Sustainable Development
Centre for Development and Emergency Practice
Centre for Diversity Policy Research and Practice
Centre for Business, Society and Global Challenges
Oxford Institute for Nursing, Midwifery & Allied Health Research
Biomedical Sciences Cluster
Social Sciences, Politics and International Relations Cluster

b. Key aspects of our three-year strategic plan for QR GCRF

Oxford Brookes has an indicative QR GCRF allocation of £210K pa over the three-year period under consideration.

In support of our three priority objectives in (a), we plan to use the QR GCRF to primarily support **capacity and capability building in ODA-research** by funding early-career (ECR) fellowships and research students to work within established teams with track records for research excellence. Our GC ECR and research student scheme is designed

to underpin interdisciplinary and collaborative research within our four thematic areas and will help develop positive outcomes and impact for partners in developing countries. We will fund **three GC ECR Fellows and eight GC Studentships** as described in section (g).

We will also **underpin and pump prime** external bids for development-related (e.g. Newton or GCRF) projects to **increase the engagement of our academics with international development challenges** by enhancing and focusing our experts on the challenges faced by developing countries.

Our **GCSG**, comprising appropriately experienced senior researchers and research support colleagues drawn from across the university, will **coordinate, promote, monitor and evaluate** the impact and success of our Development and GC Research Strategy. The GCSG will develop and promote a series of GC events and activities to engage researchers at all stages of their career in challenge-led interdisciplinary research, for example, seminar series, debates and opportunities to showcase case studies and impact of research projects.

Members of GCSG will also act as advisors on GCRF funding applications to ensure that we submit the strongest, high quality proposals and, where appropriate, make recommendations on the allocation of pump-prime funding (as described above). The GCSG will also oversee monitoring of GCRF and other development-related activities and evaluate the impact of our collective endeavours.

In January 2019, we will hold a cross-university research conference to promote interdisciplinary and collaborative research in three thematic areas: (1) GC – Economic & Environmental Sustainability, (2) GC Health & Well-being and (3) Industrial Strategy. This will provide a forum to promote GC case studies and facilitate interdisciplinary approaches.

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

The key objectives of our broader development-related research activities (as stated in a) are underpinned by selective investment from QR in research excellence, translational activities and impact, capacity building (ECRs and studentships), researcher development and building international partnerships (travel and pump prime funding).

The activities funded through QR GCRF are aligned with our broader strategy in terms of selective investment in research areas that are underpinned by research excellence, aim to build capacity and develop international partnerships with countries most in need of our collaboration and support. The research areas selected for funding meet our own criteria for development-related research as well as those of UK GCRF.

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

Our QR GCRF strategy and plans relate to the UK Strategy for GCRF in the following ways:

Our planned activities are focused on problems and their solutions that are highly relevant to developing countries. We have decided to invest in research groups or thematic areas in which we have a demonstrable track record of research excellence (through the award of competitive external funding, e.g. Newton, RCUK, high quality outputs or developing impact case studies including those for REF2021). All planned activities are targeted at delivering positive impact on the economic development and/or health and welfare needs of developing countries and have been selected to fit with the UK GCRF strategic themes [as stated in (a)].

All activities are planned to develop and strengthen collaborations that are equitable, meaningful and sustainable over the longer term. Hence, fellowships and studentships are being assigned within established academic teams and structures, funding for partnership exchanges will enable two-way exchange for students and fellows to spend a meaningful amount of time with partners and for academics from partners to visit Oxford Brookes. Partners will also be included in the supervisory team of students.

Our strategy to invest largely in studentships and ECR Fellowships fits the UK GCRF theme of **capacity and capability building to support the delivery of ODA-research**. Oxford Brookes has a good track record of supporting successful ECRs to develop their long term careers at the university by appointments to permanent academic roles. This has been recognised by an Athena SWAN Silver in Health & Life Sciences, for example. This not only helps build sustainable research themes at the university but also ensures that partnerships thrive in the longer term.

We will ensure that partners are involved in the research through a number of measures that have been integrated into our planned activities, e.g. funding two-way exchanges and visits. We will also expect and support funded projects to work with partners to secure longer term external funding.

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

Oxford Brookes receives just under £5M pa QR funding as a result of REF2014.

Sixty percent is distributed to Faculties and Departments in accordance with performance and outcome of REF2014. Faculties use QR funding to support approved Faculty/Departmental Research Strategies including research sabbatical schemes, allocation of work-load planning time for research, appointment of research fellows, staff development and training, pump prime funding and research studentships.

Forty percent is retained centrally to augment research support services (e.g. grant applications, graduate school, IT services and Library/Open Access) and also to form a

strategic Central Research Fund (CRF). The CRF is used to support cross-university ECR Fellowship and Research Studentship schemes. It is also used to fund Researcher Development activities, Research Ethics, Athena SWAN, Bridging Funds, Research Excellence Awards (£10K or £20K), Impact Awards (£2-20K), International Visiting Research Fellowships and International Collaborative Research Travel Awards.

Our development-related and GCRF strategies and funding is thus entirely consistent with our institutional use of mainstream QR funding.

We are currently using mainstream QR (2016-17) to support collaborative travel awards enabling academic staff to visit existing partners or to establish new partnerships where the aim is either to develop funding bids or undertake impact or translational activities. GC QR (2016-17) funding is used to support collaborations with DAC-listed and mainstream QR for other countries. To date 18 awards have been made.

We are also using our QR funding in 2016-17 to fund seven pump prime projects and eight incoming GC International Fellowships for between 1 and 6 months. These activities are strengthening partnerships in the following countries: South Africa, Ghana, Tanzania, Kenya, Zambia, Mexico, Ecuador and Brazil. Examples are shown below:

Collaboration with the University of Pretoria, South Africa to further develop a pilot project aimed at increasing understanding of the origin of infectious diseases in an urbanising world.

Collaboration with the University of Pretoria, South Africa to address the challenges facing the Southern African print culture since the end of colonial rule and apartheid. It will support new research in publishing studies to help tackle entrenched racial, linguistic and geographical disparities in knowledge access and production.

Collaboration with The Geophysical Institute (Instituto Geofísico) in Quito, Ecuador to investigate responses to rapidly declining glaciers in the Andes, in particular the impact on the social/economic vulnerability and livelihoods of the growing Andean populations.

Collaboration with the University of Nairobi; Ardhi University, Tanzania; University of Witwatersland, Johannesburg; the Copperbelt University, Zambia and others to develop a regional Housing and Employment Research Network, to better understand the challenges between housing and employment and to maximise the benefits of housing delivery by devising, upgrading and implementing appropriate housing policies with employment.

f. Likely key barriers and enablers to implementing our strategy.

An identified barrier to implementing our strategy involves appointing high quality ERC Fellows or research students to the projects identified. To mitigate against this, as an enabler, we will advertise for fellows and studentships in each of the targeted project areas and will appoint the best three ECR Fellows and the best six students. This follows

our standard practices for the appointment of ECRs and studentships, which to date has been highly successful. We also have a number of reserve projects identified.

The main other barriers are those that have also been identified in the UK GC Strategy, the challenge of ensuring that partnerships are meaningful and that the impact of research outcomes is sustainable in the longer term. To enable partnerships with collaborators in developing countries to be meaningful, our Fellowship and Studentship scheme is designed to promote two-way exchange of personnel and for Fellows/Students to spend significant time in the partner. Senior academics mentors or supervisors can also apply for International Travel Awards to undertake supporting visits.

To ensure as far as possible that collaborations and impact are sustainable in the longer term, successful GC Fellows will be considered, where appropriate, for permanent academic posts and all funded research teams will be supported (and expected) to apply for further external funding whether for further research or translational/impact activities. Academic staff can also apply to the CRF impact fund to help ensure that the outcomes of research activities deliver the planned impact.

We will also encourage research collaborations to consider how they inform teaching and training activities to ensure that impact generated from the projects is disseminated in developing countries for long term benefit.

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

1. Capacity and Capability Building: 3x GC Early Career Research Fellowships

We will appoint three outstanding GC ECR Fellows, through a competitive appointment process, to strengthen capacity for development-related, interdisciplinary or disciplinary research, innovation and knowledge exchange (in one or more of our four thematic areas). We will encourage applications from researchers in developing countries.

Each Fellow will be appointed for three years (two years with possibility of renewal for a third year subject to satisfactory performance) to work within established groups that have a track record of research excellence and existing collaborations within a DAC-listed country; in which the Senior Academic will act as mentor to ensure appropriate levels of support and guidance. Priority has been given to supporting collaborations with Least Developed or Lower Middle-Income countries or to complement activities, funded by Newton for example, in Upper Middle-Income countries.

Fellowships will attract a research support grant appropriate to the disciplinary area as well as travel funds to enable meaningful visits to the ODA collaborator and at least one

return visit of the collaborator to Oxford Brookes. Return visits will be timed to coincide with planned university-wide GC events and activities.

Fellows will be encouraged and supported to apply for further funding to develop and take forward their collaborative research programme through Newton, GCRF or other development-related funding programmes.

GC Fellows will be fully integrated into Departmental activities and invited to attend GC-specific events and activities. At the end of their Fellowship, ECRs will be considered for either an extension using Faculty or Central Strategic Research Funds (up to a total of 5 years) or appointed to a permanent academic post. Alternatively, where appropriate, GC Fellows may return home to increase local capacity for research and help maintain the collaboration with Oxford Brookes. Both pathways are considered important in developing collaborations or partnerships that have capacity to deliver sustainable impact over the longer term.

2. Capacity and Capability Building: 8x GC Research Studentships

We will use QR GCRF funds to create eight GC Research Studentships. These will be awarded to strengthen capacity for development-related research (in one or more of our four priority themes) and to help train the next generation of researchers in challenge-led, interdisciplinary research.

Studentships will be used to foster interdisciplinary research collaboration within Brookes and promote collaboration with partners in DAC-listed countries. To achieve this goal, the supervisory team will include academics from different disciplines and from the partner institution. Our GC studentships will include mandatory periods of time (up to 3 months) at the partner institution; an appropriate travel and subsistence allowance will be included.

A programme of events and activities specific to GC and Sustainable Development will be threaded throughout the doctoral training programme to provide context, appropriate training and cohort identity amongst this group of GC students. This will include seminars and invited speakers on GC themes, training activities and opportunities to present the outcome and impact of their research. The GC-specific activities will sit alongside normal Doctoral Training Programme activities.

Each studentship will comprise a bursary equivalent to that funded by RCUK, a research training support grant appropriate to the discipline(s) and up to £3000 to support a period of study at the partner institution.

Fellowships or studentships will be targeted to the following projects:

Sustainable cities and communities:

A: The challenge of urban mobility inequalities to promote health, wellbeing and travel behaviour (Federal Universities of Rio Grande and Santa Catarina, Brazil building on an ESRC Newton award).

B: To address rising global concerns over security and insecurity through local and community-based security initiatives in South Africa (Stellenbosch University).

C: To address the challenge of reducing energy demand in residential buildings in developing countries building on Newton EPSRC/ESRC/DST project with IIT Hyderabad and MNIT Jaipur, India.

D: The implications of China's Belt and Road initiatives in developing sustainable communities in central Asian regions (with KIMEP University Kazakhstan, AUCA University Kyrgyzstan and JNU New Delhi, India).

E: The challenge for Vietnamese communities of young migrants coming to the UK (with Trung Vuong University, Vietnam)

Sustainable health and well-being:

A: The challenge of parasitic diseases caused by Trypanosomes (with University of Ghana and University of Bristol).

B: The challenge of developing CCHF virus diagnostics in low technology settings (with Public Health England and the Institute of Preventative Medicine, Ministry of Health, Tajikistan) where CCHFv is endemic.

C: The challenge of substance misuse in young people in the poorest communities using family-based community interventions (with University of Goa, India).

Dynamics between long term development (to reduce poverty, gender inequality and promote peace and justice) and short term humanitarian assistance in conflict settings

A: Leave no one behind: responding to long term development with less dependency on aid in humanitarian crisis: young people with disabilities as agents for change (with Lebanese American University, Lebanon)

B: The challenge of the social and economic integration of refugees into host societies: the role of entrepreneurship; integration of Syrian refugees in Turkey (Istanbul University, building on a Newton-funded project).

Resilience and action on short-term environmental shocks and long-term environmental change:

A: To develop sustainable upland and lowland agroforestry in Java for food security whilst maintaining biodiversity (with Gadjah Madah University, Indonesia)

3. Support for GCRF and Newton funding bids

Pump prime funding to enable and support bids to Newton/GCRF or other development-related funding calls including travel funds, networking events, workshop hosting,

collection of pilot data. We have been successful with a number of Newton-funded projects and many of these have benefitted from small amounts of initial funding to establish collaborations or collect pilot data. We will encourage applications from those who might not otherwise consider their research as suitable for development-related funding. The funding will be recommended for allocation by the GCSG.

h. The main Development Assistance Committee (DAC) list developing countries we will collaborate with

Brazil, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Tajikistan, Turkey, South Africa and Vietnam

2942 words

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

The planned outcomes and impact of our broader development-related strategy and specific QR GCRF activities are:

Outcomes and impact of broader development-related strategy:

- To develop partnerships with developing countries that thrive in the longer term
- To increase the number of academic staff pursuing development-related, challenge-led research (capacity building)
- To increase capability for challenge-led, interdisciplinary research
- To secure additional external funding from GCRF, Newton or other sources that support, enable and strengthen our capacity for development-related research
- To generate long term, sustainable impact in terms of improvement to economic development and/or health and welfare for people living in developing countries

Additional outcomes and impact of QR GCRF activities:

- Increase the number of long term sustainable partnerships in the least developed or lower middle income countries
- Strengthen partnerships built on activities funded through Newton in upper middle-income countries
- To attract and retain outstanding ECR Fellows to increase capacity for development-related research
- To appoint and train high quality research students to increase capacity and capability for development-related, interdisciplinary research
- Case studies from the funded project to promote impact of research outcomes

178 words

Management of GCRF

5. 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.

Monitoring plan

We will **embed** development-related and GCRF monitoring into Departmental and Faculty Annual Research Reviews using data recorded on our central research information system (CRIS) – CONVERIS. All externally funded grants and internally QR-funded projects are uploaded onto CONVERIS by the central research support office. Individual academics (PIs), Departmental Research Leads and Faculty Associate Deans for Research and Knowledge Exchange (ADRKE) as well as Faculty Research Managers can generate reports to monitor:

- financial spend (direct link to university finance system for externally-funded projects and progressing this report for internally-funded projects)
- HR appointments (direct link to HR system for externally funded-projects and progressing this report for internally-funded projects)
- Project collaborators and their geographical location
- Outputs including collaborators and their geographical location

Separately, we have developed an **Impact Tracker** in which researchers can log evidence of impact related to specified projects or case studies. The Impact Tracker is monitored by the University Impact Officer, who also provides cross-university guidance, support and training in research impact.

Departmental Research Leads and Faculty ADRKE draw upon these reports as well as centrally produced reports including overall grant funding and expenditure, PhD student completions and enrolments, ECR appointments, promotions, Visiting Fellowships to produce Faculty Annual Reviews of RKE.

To enable monitoring of development-related and GCRF activities, the annual reviews will report on:

- GCRF QR expenditure
- Appointment of GC Fellows, Visiting Fellows and Visiting Professors
- International partnerships/collaborations and their geographical relevance to the DAC-listed countries
- Outputs and successful funding bids in collaboration with development-related partners
- Impact arising from development-related and GCRF activities

- Activities undertaken to support and promote development-related and GC research (disciplinary and interdisciplinary)
- Actions arising from the review in relation to progressing the Development & GC Research Strategy

Faculty Annual Reviews are monitored by the Faculty RKE and University RKE Committees. The PVC RGP uses the faculty reports to produce a summary University report on progress against University RKE Strategy and KPIs that are monitored by the Vice Chancellor's Group and the Board of Governors.

Career progression and performance of GC ECR Fellows will be monitored through the annual Performance & Development Review procedure that all staff participate in. This includes review of short, medium and longer term research plans (grant capture, output and collaboration plans) as well as career aspirations.

Annual monitoring of research student training and progress is delegated to the University Research Degree Committee and faculty Doctoral Training Programmes.

Evaluation plan

The **GC Steering Group will monitor and evaluate** faculty Annual Reviews and ongoing quarterly reports generated by the central research support team/CONVERIS from a development and GC perspective. This will include evaluation of (1) progress made against our strategic objectives (defined in 1a) and planned activities for development-related and GC research; (2) progress against our planned contribution to the UK GCRF Strategy; and (3) compliance with ODA guidelines. As a result of their evaluation, the **GCSG will make recommendations** to the PVC RGP and ADRKE for actions to redress any shortcomings or promote successes. KPI and metrics to inform the evaluation will include:

- External GCRF, Newton and other development-related funding received (in general and related to specific QR-GCRF funded projects)
- Number and strength of collaborations and partnerships with developing countries (as defined by DAC-list)
- Number of outputs with collaborators in DAC-listed countries
- Evidence from Impact Tracker and developing impact case studies (REF2021 or otherwise; in general, or specifically-related to funded GC QR projects) that impact generated from activities is having a positive effect on the communities we are working with
- Number of Visiting Fellows, Visiting Researchers or Visiting Professors from collaborators in developing countries
- Number of successful GC studentship completions

599 words

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

6. 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.

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

Of our £210k GCRF QR allocation, we are proposing to use £120K to support the appointment of three GC Fellows to **increase capacity for development-related work** on challenge-led problems identified in partnership with collaborators in DAC-listed countries. Up to an additional £30K of mainstream QR funding will be used to supplement the £120K to ensure that Fellows have adequate resources for research and partnership activities – thus we have an indicative overall expenditure of £50K per Fellow p.a. Fellows will be appointed for two years in the first instance with the intention of funding a third year assuming good progress against objectives and continued GCRF QR funding.

£60K of funding will be used to part-fund eight GC studentships (**capacity and capability enhancing**). GCRF QR funding will be matched by £100K mainstream QR to ensure studentships are adequately resourced to provide a bursary for 3 years as well as research support and partnership activities. Funding will be committed for 3 years assuming students achieve normal PhD progression milestones.

£30K of funding will be used to **pump-prime applications** for Newton, GCRF or other development-related funding; allocation of this funding will be overseen by the GC Steering Group.

194 words

8. 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.

With indicative funding of £210K, in 2018-19 our priority actions are to fund 3 ECR Fellowships and 8 GC studentships.

These all sit within four priority thematic areas identified in the UK GCRF Strategy and all support disciplinary or interdisciplinary research activities in collaboration with partners in DAC-listed countries. Priority has been given to countries that sit within the least developed or low middle ODA categories or where partnerships are with upper middle listed countries, these build on Newton-funded projects. These activities clearly fall under

'capacity and capability enhancing activities' within the UK GCRF strategy and are compliant with ODA objectives.

We have also identified worthy projects for fellowship or studentship funding that are on a reserve list.

Our final priority is to fund pump-priming activities to support Newton/GCRF funding bids, which is clearly within scope of the UK GCRF Strategy and ODA guidelines.

If we were to receive additional funding in 2018-19, depending on the levels and timing of funding, we would commit to one or more of four actions:

- Increase the number of GC studentships funded by making awards to the reserve list of projects (this requires the additional funding to be committed annually for three years)
- Increase the number of fellowships funded by making awards to the reserve list of projects (these could be 1 year appointments)
- Increase the amount of funding allocated to pump-prime activities
- Reduce the supplement from mainstream QR so that mainstream QR can fund other activities

If our funding was decreased in 2018-19, depending on the levels of reduction we would:

- Reduce the number of GC studentships funded
- Reduce the number of GC Fellowships funded
- Remove the pump prime support for Newton/GCRF funding bids or consider funding these from mainstream QR

288 words

9. 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.

Our indicative QR GCRF funding for 2019-20 is £201K and therefore our priorities are as follows:

1. Continue the 3 GC Fellowships started in 2018-19
2. Continue the 8 GC Studentships started in 2018-19
3. Continue to provide pump prime funding to support Newton, GCRF and other development-related funding bids

All continuing activities will be subject to a positive outcome from monitoring and evaluation activities.

The Fellowships (1) and Studentships (2) all sit within four priority thematic areas identified in the UK GCRF Strategy and all support disciplinary or interdisciplinary

research activities in collaboration with partners in DAC-listed countries. Priority has been given to countries that sit within the least developed or low middle ODA categories or where partnerships are with upper middle listed countries, these build on Newton-funded projects. These activities clearly fall under 'capacity and capability enhancing activities' within the UK GCRF strategy and are compliant with objectives of the ODA through undertaking research in collaboration with developing countries in which the aim is to benefit the economic, health and wellbeing of people within those countries.

We have also identified worthy projects for fellowship or studentship funding that are on a reserve list.

Our final priority (3) is to fund pump-priming activities to support Newton/GCRF funding bids, which is clearly within scope of the UK GCRF Strategy and ODA objectives.

If levels of QR GCRF were increased in 2019-20, depending on the levels of funding provided we would action one or more of the following in light of recommendations from our GC Steering Group and after evaluation of activities funded in 2018-19:

- Continue to support the additional fellows/studentships appointed if 2018-19 (if appropriate)
- Identify and fund further ECR fellows in new areas emerging from investment in 2018-19 or from our reserve list.
- Fund a second round of incoming International Fellows to strengthen collaborations and partnerships or establish new collaborations in DAC-listed countries (assuming a positive evaluation and impact of the first round in 2017-18), particularly where Newton, GCRF or other development-related funding has been secured.
- Provide additional pump-prime funding to support bids to Newton/GCRF or other developed-related funding competitions
- Use to provide institutional support/match funding for GCRF bids

If levels of QR GCRF were reduced, we would prioritise funding committed to studentships and fellows in 2018-19.

378 words

10. 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.

Our indicative QR GCRF funding for 2020-21 is £201K and therefore our priorities are as follows:

1. Continue the 3 GC Fellowships started in 2018-19 for a final year, subject to positive evaluation and evidence of developing impact after two years

2. Continue the 8 GC Studentships started in 2018-19 for the final year
3. Continue to provide pump prime funding to support Newton, GCRF and other development-related funding bids

All continuing projects will be subject to a positive outcome from monitoring and evaluation activities.

The Fellowships (1) and Studentships (2) all sit within four priority thematic areas identified in the UK GCRF Strategy and all support disciplinary or interdisciplinary research activities in collaboration with partners in DAC-listed countries. Priority has been given to countries that sit within the least developed or low middle ODA categories or where partnerships are with upper middle listed countries, these build on Newton-funded projects. These activities clearly fall under 'capacity and capability enhancing activities' within the UK GCRF strategy and are compliant with objectives of the ODA through undertaking research in collaboration with developing countries in which the aim is to benefit the economic, health and wellbeing of people within those countries.

Our final priority (3) is to fund pump-priming activities to support Newton/GCRF funding bids, which is clearly within scope of the UK GCRF Strategy and ODA objectives.

If levels of QR GCRF were increased in 2020-21, depending on the levels of funding provided we would action one or more of the following in light of recommendations from our GC Steering Group and after evaluation of activities funded in 2018-19 and 2019-20:

- Continue to support the additional fellows/studentships appointed in 2018-19/2019-20 (if appropriate)
- Provide additional pump-prime funding to support bids to Newton/GCRF or other developed-related funding competitions or institutional support/match funding for GCRF bids
- Use to provide follow-on funds for existing projects to develop emerging impact or translational activities to ensure the best outcomes in terms of GCRF/ODA-related aims and objectives

In the final year of the 3-year funding cycle, our priorities for any additional funding are to ensure that funded projects have the best chance of meeting their goals by generating additional funding for longer term collaboration and impact activities so that the research undertaken delivers real benefit (economic or societal) for the people of the countries that we have been working with.

391 words