

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.
 - 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.

a. The RCM's overall strategy and priority objectives for development-related research activity falls under the following headings:

1. Enabling effective knowledge exchange (KE) between RCM researchers and researchers in developing countries, in which KE is understood in its proper spirit, i.e., a two-way flow of expertise and experience, fostering mutual understanding of and responses to diverse cultural practices ('cultural translation') as these relate to the following key RCM research areas:
 - i. inclusive and equitable music education;
 - ii. the role of musical performance in promoting sustainable health and well-being, both among practising musicians and other participants in musical culture;
 - iii. preserving, interpreting, and disseminating musical heritage and its material culture.
2. Significantly strengthening and building the institution's capacity and capabilities for developing long-term, sustainable research relationships in these areas, working with governmental and non-governmental institutions, key societal stake-holders and other beneficiaries in targeted developing countries.

3. Effective network building with music researchers in developing countries leading to the instigation of large-scale challenge-led collaborative research projects that result in tangible outputs with evidence-based beneficial impacts. Bids for GCRF funding will form an important aspect in developing such activities.

4. Developing researchers and innovation in research methodologies through: researcher exchanges; designing and disseminating specialist research skills training; and providing both physical and virtual platforms for enabling dialogue and the dissemination of research.

b. The three-year GCRF Strategy (2018/19–2020/21) addresses the following GCRF Challenge:

Equitable Access to Sustainable Development, and specifically the following two aims:

- sustainable health and well being
- inclusive and equitable quality education

The Strategy focuses on four challenge-led projects (see g. below) that each build on an area of proven excellence within the RCM's overall research profile. The projects are all multi-disciplinary and are intended both to build research capacity within the RCM and use existing RCM expertise to broker effective and mutually-enriching knowledge exchange partnerships with HEIs and other institutions and organisations in developing countries.

- It is a fundamental principle that wherever possible, partners in the developing country play a significant, and preferably equal role in identifying research objectives, designing, facilitating and carrying out projects and the dissemination of outputs.
- Projects are designed to use the focus of musical practice in various manifestations that are core to the RCM's research culture to address wider issues of health and well-being promotion, inclusive and equitable quality education, and developing models for supporting sustainable musical cultures.
- Each project requires the promotion of strong and enduring relationships between academic communities in the UK and Europe and the targeted ODA countries. The RCM has long experience of brokering and working effectively within multi-institutional research partnerships, and this expertise will be deployed in the proposed projects. GCRF funding will be used for pump-priming small projects that may lead on to large-scale GCRF grant applications.
- Where appropriate, researcher exchanges and support for developing specialist research methods training will be supported by the QR GCRF funding.

c. The four challenge-led projects that will generate the activities of the RCM QR GCRF Strategy (2018/19–2020/21) are designed to build up what is a relatively new direction for the RCM, i.e., development-related research. They have been chosen firstly because they build on research expertise achievements in areas that lend themselves particularly strongly to two of categories identified in the GCRF Challenge 'Equitable and Sustainable Development'. Secondly because the RCM's 2015–2025 Research Strategy will expand capacity in the areas of Arts and Health, Music Education, and Music and Material Culture; and finally, because it is recognised that particularly in these areas, there is great potential scope for fostering valuable knowledge exchange partnerships

and providing support for the development of music-based research in developing countries and direct beneficial impacts arising from them.

d. In the period 2018–2021, the RCM plans to pursue four principle projects (see g. below for details), each of which addresses the following two SDGs:

- promote challenge-led disciplinary and interdisciplinary research, including the participation of researchers who may not previously have considered the applicability of their work to development issues
- strengthen capacity for research, innovation and knowledge exchange in the UK and developing countries through partnership with excellent UK research and researchers.

Additionally, project 1 addresses the third SDG:

- provide an agile response to emergencies where there is an urgent research need.

The Strategy is focused on addressing two of the ambitions of the GCRF: generating effective solutions in the areas of equal and effective education, and sustaining stable institutions.

e. The RCM Research Strategy (2015–2021) includes the following two headline aims:

- Substantially raise the RCM's national and international research profile
- Maximise the impact and dissemination of RCM research and knowledge resources to the widest range of beneficiaries both within and beyond the institution

Additionally, the RCM Museum Strategy includes a commitment to strengthen the research culture across the Museum in the following areas:

- i. Curatorship and display of functional objects
- ii. Digital humanities
- iii. Museum education
- iv. Museum conservation

Institutional QR funding is used to support the aims of the RCM's Research Strategy in a variety of ways, including:

1. Investing in providing time for academic staff at all levels to undertake research activity
2. Providing specialist resources, including equipment, library, digital, data and output repositories, support for the organisation of dissemination activities and selective publication of outputs.
3. Provision of the RCM's research management infrastructure, including its Director, Research and Knowledge Exchange Manager and research office;
4. Seed-funding for development of large-scale funding bids, including collaboratively with other HEIs and industrial partners.
5. Funding small-scale pump-priming projects that may lead to larger research projects.
6. Support for travel and other associated costs for academic staff to disseminate their research at conferences, etc.

All of these are related to the RCM's development-related activities; and QR GCRF funds will be specifically applied to items 2, 5 and 6.

f. **Key enablers:** each of the four projects identified in the GCRF Strategy builds to a greater or lesser extent on existing relationships with key stakeholders in the identified partner countries, and/or builds on research already carried out at the RCM and with its UK and European partners. Many of the contacts that will need to be either strengthened or freshly created, and also the dissemination of research outputs, will be facilitated through international research organisations to which RCM researchers are already affiliated, and in particular, through their periodic international meetings; these include the International Society for Music Education; International Symposium on Performance Science; Society for Education, Music and Psychology Research; European Society for the Cognitive Sciences of Music; International Committee of Music Collections of the International Council of Museums.

Key potential barriers to success include long lead-in times in establishing active partnerships with ODA country partners due to bureaucratic hindrances to researcher exchanges and project planning and execution; these will be mitigated through video-conferencing and interactive digital platforms.

Identification of, and access to key strategic health organisations in order to foster new partnerships in developing countries; these will be mitigated by calling on gatekeepers such as WHO, UNESCO and aid agencies to help with facilitating contacts, and scoping visits.

g. The key activities for the period of the Strategy are set out in the following summaries:

1. **'Preserving, interpreting and disseminating African Musical Heritage'.**

Challenge: Musical heritage in Africa is notoriously at high risk of disappearance. In 2011, the UNESCO advisory body CIMCIM (the International Committee of Music Collections of the International Council of Museums, of which the RCM Museum Curator, Prof. Gabriele Rossi Rognoni is president) agreed that 'the constitutive elements of African musical patrimony are threatened with disappearance and deterioration' and that 'immediate action is needed to prevent further losses of tangible and intangible traditions'.

The current project is a collaboration between RCM and CIMCIM that will:

- Bring together leading professionals from European and African museums and other institutions (initially in Burkina-Faso, Chad and Tanzania) to develop a sustainable and equitable model of partnerships that guarantee the long-term preservation, understanding and dissemination of African musical culture both within and outside Africa.
- Building on strong local knowledge of objects and traditions, as well as of connections with potential audiences, develop a collaborative and culture-neutral approach to the understanding of the dynamics of cross-fertilisation between African and European musical instruments and traditions and their communication to different types of audiences.

- Provide an immediate response to the risk of losses in tangible and intangible musical traditions through state-of-the-art physical and digital resources and the strengthening of inter-institutional partnerships.

2. **'Comparative study of access to higher music education in the UK and Latin America'.**

Challenge: Supporting the development of policy for evaluating the relation between secondary music education assessment and its correlation with academic success and achievements, particularly in respect of access to HE.

This project will:

- Lead to the development of a major collaborative research collaboration researcher exchange between researchers at RCM and in Brazil and Mexico, focused on a new partnership between the RCM and Federal University of Ceará, Brazil. This project will be major a longitudinal study exploring the use of assessment and diagnostic testing in predicting success in Higher Music Education. The first researcher exchange is the subject of a current British Academy Rutherford Visiting Fellowship bid.
- Build on existing music education research collaborations in Armenia, Egypt and Kazakhstan to develop extend current research on developing models for music and social sustainability to developing countries.
- Development of teacher education and building capacity for practitioner-researchers through bespoke research skills training, delivered on-line by the RCM.

3. **'Extension of the Healthy Conservatoires Network (HCN) to include institutions in developing countries'.**

Challenge: building partnerships with appropriate music education institutions that support development of training in healthy musical practices.

The HCN is one output of the 4-year £1m AHRC-funded Conservatoires UK 'Musial Impact' project (led by RCM), the largest study of musicians' health and well-being yet undertaken anywhere in the world. HCN fosters:

- exchange of information, research, practice and experience
- developing and promoting models of good practice
- advocating and advising on healthy approaches to music practice
- encouraging collaborative development and research

This project will seek to extend the Network (currently restricted to Europe) to institutions in Africa, Latin America and Southeast Asia; the development of new research partnerships through which UK researchers can learn about healthy musical practices from diverse music education cultures providing impact on musicians both here and overseas through shared practices, research and KE. GCRF funding may be used to provide FEC support to development-related aspects of other grant funding of the HCN's research programme.

4. **'Building capacity in sustainable community music education projects that support health and well-being'.**

Challenge: Extend and develop the RCM's research in the field of musical practice and health and well-being through collaborative research activity in order promote sustainable practices that support health and welfare in developing countries.

The RCM has a well-established international record of research into the relationships between musical practice and health promotion in society. For example, its current £1m AHRC HEartS project, in collaboration with Imperial College, the NHS and the Arts Council (ACE), explores the impact of the arts and culture on health and wellbeing, from individual, social, and economic perspectives. Another recent ACE-funded 'Music and Motherhood' project explored how creative engagement can support the mental wellbeing of new mothers and mitigate the impacts of post-natal depression.

This project will:

- Extend existing work with partners, including the NEOJIBA educational project, a priority programme of research and teacher training currently funded by the Government of the State of Bahia, Brazil. Its aim is 'to attain social integration via collective practice and excellence in music' and led by the Human Rights and Social Development Secretariat in Brazil and managed by the Institute of Social Action for Music (IASPM), a non-profit organization qualified as a Social Organization. An RCM researcher has been working with the Federal University of Bahia, on this project for two years.
- Develop research collaborations with new partners, identified through meetings with key strategic health partners such as the WHO, UNESCO and Aid Agencies (who tend to act as gatekeepers to health communities in many ODA target countries) in order to identify health needs and to consider how the arts can help to meet these needs.

h. Countries RCM intends to collaborate with:

| | ODA category |
|--------------|--------------|
| Armenia | 3 |
| Brazil | 4 |
| Burkina-Faso | 1 |
| Chad | 1 |
| China | 4 |
| Egypt | 3 |
| Kazakhstan | 4 |
| Mexico | 4 |
| South Africa | 4 |
| Tanzania | 1 |

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

Project 1:

Outcomes:

- Promotion of a sustainable programme of effective professional development and knowledge exchange between the Musée de la Musique, Ouagadougou (Burkina-Faso), the National Museum of Tanzania, National Museum of Chad, and the RCM Museum.
- Training course(s) on African musical heritage and heritage preservation techniques for curators from the UK and Africa.

- International conference on the preservation, interpretation and dissemination of African musical heritage within and outside Africa, organised in collaboration with CIMCIM.

- Plans developed for a travelling exhibition about the richness and diversity of African musical heritage and its impact and connections with extra-African cultures.

Impacts:

- Raised understanding, both within and outside Africa of the challenges, and specific initiatives needed to ameliorate threats to African musical culture and its objects.
- Transfer of curatorial and conservation knowledge and skills
- Development of a collaborative and culture-neutral approach to the understanding of the dynamics of cross-fertilisation between African and European musical instruments and traditions and their communication to different types of audiences.

Project 2:

Outcomes:

- Sustainable collaborative research partnership with the University of Ceará, Brazil, exploring access to higher music education in UK, Brazil and Mexico; instigation of a major longitudinal study of assessment and diagnostic testing in predicting success in Higher Music Education (HME).
- Support for local delivery of music education practitioner-researcher training in Latin American contexts.
- Involvement of at least two ODA partner countries in a major comparative research project on music and social sustainability.

Impacts:

- Influence on national policies on access to HME in Brazil and Mexico.
- Improved research skills for music education practitioners in Latin American contexts
- Sharing of latest research and best practice in music and social sustainability through international educational forums.

Project 3:

Outcomes:

- Active involvement of at least four HME institutions in ODA countries in the HCN, including new institutional research and practitioner training partnerships between at least two institutions and the RCM.

Impacts:

- Improvements in the training of musicians in health and well-being, based on mutual knowledge of different cultural models for healthy musical practice.

Project 4:

Outcomes:

- Training programme for research students and music teachers as part of the NEOJIBA collaborative research project with the Federal University of Bahia, Brazil.

- Completion of one new joint health and education pump-priming project in partnership with locally based researcher-practitioners in one or more ODA target countries that builds on existing expertise in music and health promotion.
 - Preparation of a bid for major GCRF funding for a collaborative health, music and education research project with partners identified through partnership with the WHO, UNESCO or other aid agencies.
- Impacts:
- Improved access to quality music education in deprived communities in rural Brazil.
 - Increase in the number of qualified music practitioner-researchers from the Federal University of Bahia; dissemination of research at international meetings.
 - Improved researcher skills and better understanding of the links between health and education through music and the arts in one or more developing country.

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.

Monitoring of RCM research activity is the responsibility of the Research Committee, chaired by the Director of Research; it meets three times per year and it reports to the RCM Senate. The Director of Research is the nominated staff member overseeing research integrity and is also responsible for ensuring that all externally imposed conditions on research, including ODA compliance, are satisfactorily monitored and any infringements are reported via the Research Committee to the RCM Senate and Council.

The RCM Research Strategies and its sub-strategies, including the QR GCRF Research Strategy, are reviewed by the Committee and evaluated for progress against headline targets on outcomes and impacts annually. An annual report on progress against headline targets, compliance of RCM research activities against the CUK Protocol on Good Research Conduct, and against general Research England conditions, including ODA compliance (where relevant), is produced by the Director of Research and presented to Research Committee at the start of each academic year. In compiling the annual report to Research Committee on progress against headline targets, including outcomes and impacts, the Director of Research draws on regular reports of progress maintained for each funded project by its respective PI or, in the case of collaborative projects where the PI is not based at RCM, by the ranking Col. They are required to highlight where projects have or have not met intended outcomes and impacts and provide information about how such deviations will either be overcome, or adjustments made to the projected aims and outcomes.

Applications for GCRF QR funding are made to the Director of Research using a template that requires information about the nature of, and plan for the project, its

partners; outline budget; intended outcomes and impacts, and its relationship to the wider aims of the RCM Research Strategy and the specific strategic aims of the GCRF Strategy; it includes a statement that the project is ODA compliant. Applications are reviewed by the Director of Research in consultation with the RCM Research and Knowledge Exchange Manager. Allocation of all QR GCRF funding to research projects, like other designated QR funds, is monitored by the RCM Research Committee. In addition, the Director of Research reviews all research in progress and proposals for future projects with each individual researcher as part of an annual research planning meeting. Potential problems or hindrances to current projects and also projects in early stages of development are discussed and an annual plan prepared, which might include the setting of interim milestone targets.

All new research proposals which are the subject of bids for external funding such as GCRF, are subject to a rigorous process of institutional review and sign-off at each stage of development, including at the point of submission. Review of research project design includes checking of all aspects of the bid against the conditions set by the funder; financial and institutional resource viability; compliance with the appropriate ethical clearance procedures (normally the Conservatoires UK Ethics Procedure, a consortium process to which the RCM is a contributor); and compliance with nationally-set conditions such as ODA or Prevent, where relevant.

Progress against aims, targets and conditions of individual research projects are kept under regular review by PIs as part of standard research funding reporting required by external funders. Interim progress on outcomes and impacts of all research projects are collated by PIs and the Research and Knowledge Exchange Manager, and made public through the project web pages linked through the Research area of the RCM website.

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.

All projects have been checked to ensure that they involve interactions or collaborations with official agencies, including state and local governments, or by their executive agencies. The projects are designed to ensure that each has the promotion of the economic development and welfare of developing countries as its main objective. All research promoted through this strategy is directly and primarily relevant to the problems of developing countries. Project 1, which involves the promotion of musical instrument museums, is likewise ODA compliant ('Social and cultural programmes'). All financial

support for exchange visits to the RCM by researchers from developing country partners includes a grant element to the respective developing country of at least 25 per cent (calculated at a rate of discount of 10 per cent).

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.

If funding is less than the indicative allocation, project expenditure will be reduced accordingly; some extra subsidy from the RCM's QR allocation may be used to mitigate shortfalls. If QR GCRF is considerably increased, the RCM will consider adding a fifth collaborative research project on the articulation of Bolivian musical heritage through a researcher exchange programme (not included here); this project is ODA compliant. Additionally, more and longer researcher exchange visits for the four projects outlined would become possible.

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.

Priorities:
Completion of design, and initiation of implementation of all new projects; second tranche of researcher exchange visits; consolidating research networks and institutional partnerships arising from researcher exchange visits; dissemination of first outputs from those projects that include research data collection.
ODA criteria on research are met through a mix of developing and developed country research meetings, and data collection and processing. Plans and activities monitored at annual review to ensure they meet ODA criteria of the promotion of the economic development and welfare of developing countries as their main objective. Publication of institutional GCRF report on-line.
Increase in funding will allow acceleration of some programmes; more presentations of research outcomes in international forums; increased on-line dissemination (e.g., commissioning of short videos) and other knowledge exchange activities such as public showcases.
Decreases in funding, depending on the amounts, might cause the curtailment of one or more project.

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.

Priorities:
Completion of pump-priming projects, where relevant; further dissemination of research outcomes through relevant activities (publications; international conferences; policy documents; exhibition design (Project 1); finalising of strategies for

continuation/development of selected projects into the next three-year QR GCRF strategy; submission of at least two major GCRF funding bids for projects that entail cultural translation between partners in developing countries and the UK.

All activity will be monitored against ODA criteria through annual review. Publication of institutional report on-line.

Increase in GCRF funding will permit initiation of additional project(s); co-supporting further international conference; acceleration of some outputs. Decrease in funding might involve shortening some projects or even abandonment of elements; mitigation of any shortfalls would involve seeking alternative funding sources.