

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

Institutional strategy and priority objectives and how activity fits into the broader strategies and priorities for all development related work: The primary objective of all development related research activity funded through all external and internal sources is to open new avenues of collaboration through the sharing and exchange of knowledge and skills in supportive environments and to provide sustainable results with significant impact and reach. UCLan's international strategy (2016-2020) states that UCLan will 'increase joint research with international partners and academics [and professionals], developing new strategic partnerships and utilising UCLan's existing international relationships. We believe globalisation provides life changing opportunities. The University Strategy 2015-2020 states that *'the University will be innovative and entrepreneurial in our approach to research and knowledge exchange in order to maximise our positive social, environmental and economic impact locally, nationally and globally.'* Our key performance indicators provide targets for postgraduate student

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

numbers, research of international standing, research income and engagement with business, public and third sector organisations.

Key aspects of UCLan's 3 yr strategic plan: With reference to the provided guidance, the key aspects of the proposed plan are to: (i) support only research activity that directly and primarily is of benefit to the problems of developing countries; (ii) work only with countries and territories as defined by the Development Assistance Committee (DAC); (iii) use HEFCE QR GCRF to support current live GCRF projects and provide a level of matched funding for future externally funded proposals, and (iv) encourage and promote GCRF activity to build new networks and collaborations through pump-priming activity.

How does the proposed activity relate to the UK Strategy for GCRF: The proposed framework and associated activities will (i) promote challenge-led disciplinary and interdisciplinary research, encouraging new academics to this source of funding, and (ii) strengthen capacity for research, and knowledge exchange in the UK and developing countries through sustainable partnerships.

How does the GCRF and development work, relate to our wider institutional strategy for QR: QR funding is used to support the research community at UCLan through a range of mechanisms: staff salaries; facilities; projects. QR is always allocated to ensure the best return for the investment, to drive the research activity in such a way as to develop a sustainable environment which fosters and develops the research endeavour.

What are the key barriers and enablers to implementing the strategy: Knowledge of GCRF monies and what it can be used for could be improved. To promote further the awareness of GCRF funding, an annual event at UCLan will showcase the live collaborations currently funded and demonstrate the type of activity supported, offer a Q&A session focussed on developing good quality GCRF proposals, promote the internal and external funding available to support GCRF activities. The first of these events will be run before 31 July 2018. Another enabler is the availability of pump-priming monies to support academic communities exploring the possibilities of collaborations and projects together. A major barrier is being appropriately networked to facilitate collaborations. Academics at UCLan will be supported by the International Office and Research Services at UCLan, and potentially other external networks to help identify key connections to build potential collaborations.

Key activities for QR GCRF funding: The HEFCE funding will be used in three different strands: (i) to further support those activities already funded through ODA compliant schemes; (ii) to provide a form of matched funding to proposals to be submitted for external funding for ODA compliant activity, and (iii) to support pump priming activity to encourage research groups at UCLan to explore the opportunities offered by GCRF type funding. It is hoped that successful pump-priming projects will enable new collaborations to be in a position to apply for external funding to further their work and endeavour. The exact amounts available for the 3 strands will be relatively flexible, as strand 2 funding

will only be realised if submitted proposals are successfully awarded funding. Where projects allocated matched funding are unsuccessful in securing external funds the monies will be redirected to either those project currently running or to pump-priming activity.

The main developing countries which UCLan intends to collaborate with: Currently the focus will be on projects which have already received funding for ODA compliant activity through the RCUK or NIHR awards, and so this would mean the countries we will be collaborating with initially are Pakistan, India, Ghana, Brazil, Mexico, Zambia, Kenya, Namibia/ Botswana, Ghana, Madagascar, and Mozambique.

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

Of the 3 awarded projects currently operating the intended outcomes are:

For **BiZiFED (Zinc in crops)**: (i) fortified foods improving dietary intake of Zn; (ii) the use of zinc rich fertilisers will enhance crop content of zinc; (iii) evaluate the acceptability of fortified foods through stakeholder mapping. The impact will be to inform Pakistan Government policy and strategy for production of zinc-biofortified wheat

For **DARA (Radio Astronomy Global Network)**: (i) Dish Conversion workshop in Ghana; (ii) VLBI Regional Collaboration workshop in Mexico; (iii) Economic development through radio astronomy workshop in UK; (iv). The impact will be to build partnerships between 3 separate continental projects in development through radio astronomy leading to a global network of expertise that can mobilise radio astronomy for economic development.

For **Stroke Care in India**: (i) building a programme of education and training within India for nurses and healthcare workers; and (ii) provide a leadership programme. The impact will be a programme of agreed priorities to promote and empower nurses to lead the development of health care and patient improvement through a Nursing Now campaign.

For future projects and activities supported, the intended outcomes and impacts will be compliant with the UK Strategy for the Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF) and will address the research agenda for enabling change and addressing the UN sustainable development goals (SDG). They will provide outcomes and impact which through research and innovation improve the lives and opportunities of the global poor.

The allocation of the funding awarded to pump-priming activity is key to encouraging and facilitating new academic groupings to support the mission of GCRF and ODA activity. At UCLan a monthly magazine is produced which collates all GCRF related external funding opportunities in one document for academic research groups to review and act on.

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.

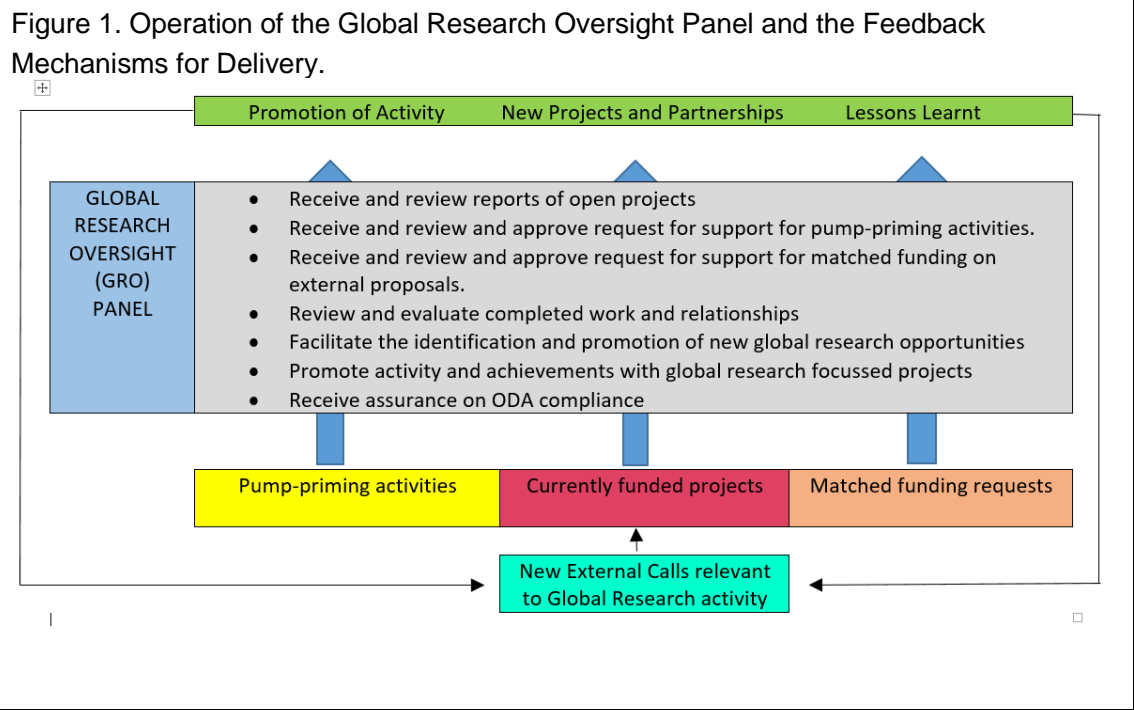
When externally funded projects are awarded at UCLan, they are supported in post-award activity to ensure the project is delivered on time, to budget and to contract. The support is provided by the Project Officer in the Grants and Funding Unit, in Research Services, working closely with Financial Services and the academic delivery team.

With the allocation of the proposed funding the University will establish a **Global Research Oversight (GRO) Panel**, chaired at PVC level. The GRO Panel will be responsible for overseeing projects which have been awarded through The Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF) from the 7 Research Councils, the Research Councils UK and the 4 Academics of the British Academy, Royal Academy of Engineering, Royal Society and the Academy of Medical Sciences and the Global Health Research Fund from the National Institute for Health Research (NIHR). The GRO Panel will have representatives from the Principle Investigators (PIs), Heads of School, Faculty Research Directors, Finance, Legal, Research Services and the International Office. The GRO Panel will have 3 objectives to:

- (i) receive and review reports from project teams which details their progress against deliverables, evaluate outcomes, identify lessons to be learnt and review and ensure ODA compliance;
- (ii) review and approve matched funding requests to enhance proposals to external GCRF funders;
- (iii) manage the Call for proposals to award the proportion of funding allocation allotted to support pump priming activity to encourage GCRF activity which may lead to additional applications for funding from other sources of GCRF funds.

Figure 1., gives an overview of the feedback mechanisms that will operate, to ensure lessons will be learnt and applied to new opportunities.

To provide an independent opinion on the geographical distribution of activity, outputs, outcomes and the economic and social impacts of the funded work, an external evaluative report will be commissioned by the University. The report should be completed by June of each year and will cover all activity for the previous academic financial year (April to March). There will be a version of the report available for public view via the University website. An annual formal report will be provided to the University Research and Innovation Committee (URIC), which ultimately reports to the University Academic Board.



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.

Annex A2 has been completed using information from live projects which have already been cleared as ODA compliant. A range of values have been provided in the QR GCRF column to show that when funding has been allocated to provide matched funding to a proposal submitted to an external funder and that proposal has not been successful, the sum allocated from the HEFCE QR GCRF monies will be redirected to support either other proposal for matched funding; live funded projects or additional pump priming activity. Where the funding is allocated will be determined by the GRO Panel (see Q3 above).

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.

We have taken the decision not to identify which areas or activities would be funded but have offered a framework through which potential opportunities for funding can be reviewed and assessed and funding allocated accordingly. There are currently 3 GCRF focussed projects running and the additional proposed funding from HEFCCE, enables new activities to be supported for live projects as well as encouraging new entrants to GCRF through offering matched funding for potential proposals for external funding, plus encourage new entrants to this area through the pump-priming activities.

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.

Again, the framework will be followed. If funding allocations increase then more opportunities would be offered to provide matched funding to proposals for external funding so acting as a further leverage to secure additional external income, plus a focus would be placed on pump priming activities to encourage more participants in GCRF activity.

If the funding allocation decreased, the focus would be to offer additional support for new activity to those live projects which have already secured external funding for their ODA activity.

All proposed activity will be checked to ensure that it meets ODA criteria as defined at www.oecd.org/dac, by the OECD.

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.

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