

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.

Maximum 3,000 words

- a. The Institution's strategy and priority objectives for all development related research activity funded through all sources for 3 years from 2018-2019 is to extend our worldwide footprint of global development activity through:
 - i. Building capability and strengthening capacity for research and innovation in developing countries by supporting excellent research and researchers to address challenges faced by those countries.

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

- ii. Facilitating mono-disciplinary, interdisciplinary and collaborative research activity that sustainably promotes the economic development and welfare of developing countries.
- iii. Generating impact from research in and beyond the sector.

Our Institutional Strategic Plan (2015-2020) sets out our ambitions to increase the scale, quality and impact of our research. The creation, dissemination and application of knowledge is at the heart of all that we do and builds on the University's history and traditions.

Our focus on impactful, global challenges is highlighted within the 5 key pillars of the University's research and innovation strategy, which are:

- i. Further enhancement of the impact and quality of our research;
- ii. Promotion of our "global challenge" led interdisciplinary research themes to address funding and impact priorities;
- iii. Support for our world-leading technology platforms as our unique capabilities to ensure that Leeds researchers have the flexibility to innovate;
- iv. Enhancement of our public, private and third sector partnerships to provide ease of access to our skills and capabilities to deliver impact;
- v. Growth and diversification of income to create economic and social value.

A global development outlook has long been part of Leeds' ethos for a number of years, with practical steps in place to nurture this approach. Seed corn funding to catalyse international collaborations has been specifically focused on research that addresses global challenges. In January 2016 the University established a GCRF Steering Group, following publication of the Department for International Development – HM Treasury policy paper "UK Aid: tackling global challenges in the national interest". This Steering Group is chaired by the DVC: Research & Innovation, Professor Lisa Roberts.

Over the last two years we have significantly invested in support for global development. One of the key objectives for the Dean of Strategic Research Initiatives: Global Development (appointed August 2016) is to lead the academic vision for global research development. Since his appointment the International Networks & Collaborations Manager was promoted to Head of Global Research Development in 2017, in recognition of her leadership of the University's strategic approach to GCRF. An International R&I Development Manager (IRIDM) has subsequently been appointed with a focus on South America, with a second post focusing on South East Asia currently being recruited. Pro-Deans International (one in each Faculty) have been appointed to lead International Regional Working Groups (IRWG) and global development research is being embedded in wider international activity through these roles and the Pro-Deans R&I. The Dean of the Faculty of Environment, who is also Deputy Chair of the GCRF Steering Group, is the academic lead for the Africa, South of the Sahara IRWG where Leeds already has a concentration of activity in global development.

Our approach to GCRF has been to look across the University for portfolios of world-leading research which had the groundwork in fundamental and applied science, and would be ready to deliver impact in low and middle income countries to address

seemingly intractable challenges when funding came on stream. We have added to these foundations from across the broad range of disciplines available at Leeds to form a responsive and flexible cohort of ODA-facing researchers. This emphasis on actively harnessing research capability to address demand from developing countries has enabled us to build capacity in the UK and in developing countries through collaboration.

Our global development research focuses on promoting economic development and welfare in developing countries and is delivered in partnership with stakeholders from across a range of sectors. Our experience of working with public, private and third sector stakeholders in developing countries, and particularly with policy-makers to shape our research plans from the outset, has been a key feature of our strategy and progress. We have established cross-University interdisciplinary global challenge research themes to specifically support challenge-led research in global health, cities, water, food and energy and culture.

We will use equitable partnership as a means to deliver fair access to development that is sustainable and we will work with partners to identify and secure funding for economic growth beyond ODA. For example, the Leeds-led DARA project (Development in Africa with Radio Astronomy), includes several UK universities and industrial partners and experienced telecommunications and space industry entrepreneurs and educates its trainees across Africa in business practice and knowledge transfer. We will use QR GCRF to replicate this model across other technology platforms based on research which has already been pump primed and is being sustained through GCRF delivery partners.

b. The key aspects of the University's 3-year strategic plan for QR GCRF includes plans to:

- i. **Build capability and capacity to strengthen research and innovation in developing countries by supporting excellent research and researchers to address challenges faced by developing countries.** We will do this by actively combining global development projects and research teams in the UK and overseas to meet the most pressing demands identified by LMICs. For example, we have to deliver GCRF-AFRICAP (Agricultural and Food Systems Resilience: Increasing Capacity and Advising Policy), we have assembled a team from 5 of our 8 faculties.
- ii. **Facilitate mono-disciplinary, interdisciplinary and collaborative research activity that promotes the sustainable economic development and welfare of developing countries.** We have mechanisms in place to facilitate this: academic interdisciplinary Theme Leads, R&I Development Managers (RIDM), pump priming, researcher mobility awards, International Regional Working Groups (IRWGs) and a Crucible programme - <http://crucibleinabox.nesta.org.uk/> - which was designed to help researchers to see the bigger picture and think creatively about problem-solving. The QR GCRF funding will make use of this infrastructure and adapt its mechanisms to ODA-facing research.
- iii. Generate impact from research in and beyond the sector. The Dean of Strategic Research Initiatives: Global Research Development will leverage his networks and contacts at the World Bank, Rabobank and other international organisations to

- encourage them to work alongside programmes such as GCRF-AFRICAP. We will use the DARA project and GCRF African SWIFT (Science for Weather Information and Forecasting Techniques) as models and establish similar pilots across other technology platforms.
- iv. Meet the full economic costs of eligible research funded by other GCRF delivery partners to encourage our faculties to expand their global development research.
- c. Activity funded through QR GCRF fits into our broader strategy and priorities for all development related research activity in the following ways:
- i. We are strengthening our capability and capacity in development-related research through our dynamic “global challenge-led” interdisciplinary themes in Global Health, Water, Food, Energy, Culture, and Cities. Research from across these themes has been funded through GCRF and the Newton Fund and is contributing to equitable access to sustainable development. For example, ‘Sourcing Community Solutions to Antibiotic Resistance in Nepal’ and ‘Promoting sexual and reproductive health education among adolescents through creative and youth-led practice in India, Malawi and Uganda’ are both actively unifying strengths from across Culture and Global Health themes. These projects have a particular focus on UN Sustainable Development Goal 3 ‘ensuring healthy lives and promoting well-being for all at all ages’ and fits with our priority to introduce practicable and equitable pathways to improve health and livelihoods.
- ii. We will make pump priming available to our Technology Platforms (eg the Astbury Centre for Structural Molecular Biology, the Priestly International Centre for Climate) to deliver training and education programmes. To ensure these meet ODA criteria, the Dean of Strategic Research Initiatives: Global Development and the Expert Academic Core (EAC) of our GCRF Steering Group will lead overseas missions to a range of LMICs to develop networks in our areas of strengths. This will make disciplines not usually associated with ODA more accessible to UK Aid objectives to set us on the path to delivering sustainable economies and societies.
- iii. We will develop and support new academics to have the potential to make a major contribution to the University’s academic GCRF performance and standing. Through our sector-leading “250 Great minds” programme we are recruiting University Academic Fellows, Leadership Chairs and new PhD scholarships, a combined £150M University investment. We will support these new academics to engage with GCRF research initiatives and expose them to ideas and insights from stakeholders in LMICs. For example, our Climate Platform (the Priestly International Centre for Climate) has invested in 2 new Leadership Chairs who bring expertise in climate and health, and in adaptation to climate change and its impact on vulnerable communities. We have pump primed a new collaboration led by these Priestly Chairs, ‘Enabling adaptation for vulnerable indigenous peoples at the climate-health-food nexus’ with collaborators in Peru, South Africa and Uganda from this year’s QR GCRF allocation and the Priestly RIDM is working proactively alongside the researchers to secure the means to sustain this project.

- iv. Establish interdisciplinary humanities research developed through the Culture Theme, as a GCRF cornerstone to boost accessibility to the University's cultural assets, knowhow and partners. Arts and humanities research is about people and places and so is development. Researchers from the Culture Theme are driving innovative, disruptive development research at Leeds and our plan is to promote this to make the transition to trans-disciplinary research. We will do this through active IRIDM support, targeted events that bring researchers together and pump priming which invites STEM researchers to explore how they might co-develop and deliver an interdisciplinary humanities-led project.
- v. Build a best-in-sector R&I support service to grow and support our GCRF and ODA activities. The Dean of Strategic Research Initiatives: Global Development has been appointed to lead the academic vision for global development research and will work closely with the Head of Global Development and her team, and with the distributed RIDMs located in interdisciplinary Themes and Technology Platforms.

d. Activity funded through QR GCRF at the University of Leeds relates to the UK strategy for GCRF through combining knowledge, capability and experience with innovative research to deliver solutions through an increased capacity for global development. This approach has a primary focus, based on extensive institutional experience, on delivering new practicable pathways for economic growth and wellbeing in LMICs. Our approach is informed by the UN SDGs, with emphasis placed on research that combines several goals or which tries to resolve potential conflicts between goals such as Decent Work and Economic Growth (Goal 8) and Responsible Consumption and Production (Goal 12).

The University's Centre for Global Development (CGD) - <https://cgd.leeds.ac.uk/> - will be a key delivery partner for the strategy and act as a portal to showcase the breadth of Leeds' ODA-facing research and a gateway to invite new collaborators. The CGD co-Director is a member of the UKRI GCRF Strategic Advisory Group and ideally placed to ensure alignment with the UK strategy. The Centre for Global Development will host a development sandpit in 2019 to unify the global development portfolio at Leeds with participation from as many participants from the Global South as funding will allow. The aim of the event will be to generate novel research and form new global teams inline with UK strategic priorities.

Through our ODA compliance check, all GCRF and Newton proposals are required to describe how the research they will undertake will deliver development that is sustainable and equitable - a priority articulated in the UK GCRF Strategy. We are using our interdisciplinary themes to harness research that is central to the themes set out in the UK strategy.

The ODA compliance check also requires researchers to explain how their research will contribute to the creation of prosperous economies and societies. We will use QR GCRF to launch broad, open pump priming calls and make smaller targeted investments to address the local and global challenges of population growth and pressure on the environment and climate, as well as to explore new socio-economic models based on

enabling technologies such as digital and medical technologies. The ambition to transition from interdisciplinary to trans-disciplinary research and to emphasise impact will be reinforced through pump priming guidelines and facilitated through programmes such as Crucible and global challenge hackathons. These approaches are already stimulating research and innovation at Leeds that in the longer-term, will build:

- Sustainable livelihoods supported by strong foundations for inclusive economic growth and innovation
- Resilience and action on short-term environmental shocks and long-term environmental change
- Sustainable cities and communities
- Sustainable production and consumption of materials and other resources

The University recognises the importance of human rights, good governance and social justice and provision will be made in GCRF QR for Leeds researchers to reach out to sector leads and collaborate on programmes that have these aims. In particular we will seek to pump prime activity led by researchers in Global Development and Justice within the School of Politics and International Studies. This group adopts an interdisciplinary approach to analysing the dynamics of economic, political and socio-cultural transformation in the Global South and explores controversies around agrarian change, gender norms and practices, crime, democratisation, education, food sovereignty, health, human rights, poverty, markets and labour.

e. Mainstream QR is distributed to faculties through the University's resource allocation model (RAM).

The model of devolved financial and strategic plans enables the University to effectively develop strategies for income generation and to plan and control costs at a local level where there is both accountability and ownership.

As well as supporting research capacity in academic departments, indirectly it supports the University's infrastructure as a portion of faculty allocations are used to cover the cost of services provided centrally.

However, since QR GCRF must be used to support cutting edge research that addresses the challenges of economic development and well-being faced by developing countries on the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) Development Assistance Committee (DAC) list, the University's Executive Group has agreed that the GCRF element of mainstream QR be set aside for distribution via a different process to ensure it is used to support cutting edge research that addresses the challenges of economic development and well-being faced by developing countries.

A proposal for distributing the QR GCRF allocation for 2017-2018 was agreed by the GCRF Steering Group in autumn 2017 and this pump priming process will form the basis

of how the 2018-2019 allocation will be managed by The DVC: Research & Innovation and the Head of Global Development.

f. R&I Support for GCRF due diligence and contractual agreements at Leeds is acknowledged for best practice and used by HEIs across the sector. However, even modest awards must comply with requirements stipulated by GCRF delivery partners and complexity increases with multi-partner, multi-country projects. Many LICs appear on financial risk registers and funding cannot be transferred until agreements are finalised. Projects such as GCRF-AFRICAP and GCRF African SWIFT began in October 2017 but payments to partners on both were delayed because other collaborators have been slow to respond to requests for information. Recruitment of project managers only takes place once an award letter has been received from a delivery partner so there was nobody in place to coordinate responses from collaborators and pump primed or modest awards are too small to cover the costs for a project manager. The time it takes to put appropriate mechanisms in place is therefore a likely **barrier** to implementing strategy.

The misconception and misrepresentation of UK Aid in the media is a possible barrier to implementing the strategy, especially if it causes a significant shift in UK policy and funding is diverted away from global development research.

To **enable** smoother implementation of GCRF projects, we intend to appoint a GCRF Post-award Coordinator using the QR GCRF allocation to work across several functions (due diligence, contracts, recruitment and IT) and with collaborators and partners, to ensure that projects are started as quickly as possible after awards are confirmed so that we are best placed to mobilise expenditure on new and particularly large and complex GCRF awards.

We will also use a proportion of the QR GCRF allocation to engage an external communications agency to promote the value of global development research and explain its relevance beyond our sector. This will **enable** public engagement and promote the vital changes brought about through UK Aid.

g. The key activities by which we will realise our 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 need and pump priming are:

We will strategically use the GCRF HEIF to:

- i. Build capability and capacity to strengthen interdisciplinary research and innovation and form dynamic teams in the UK and developing countries to address challenges faced by developing countries through pump-priming. With this year's allocation of QR GCRF we have pump primed 15 interdisciplinary research collaborations, across 23 countries, spanning combinations of all of the UN SDGs. For example, our researchers are collaborating with the South African Association for Laboratory Animal Science (SAALAS) to train veterinarians and para-veterinarians to build

capacity for pre-clinical research and drug discovery. This project spans the following UN SDGs: 3 - good health and wellbeing; 4 - quality education, 8 - decent work and economic growth, 9 - industry innovation and infrastructure, 17 - partnership for the goals.

- ii. Facilitate mono-disciplinary, interdisciplinary and collaborative research activity that promotes sustainable economic development and welfare within developing countries. Of particular focus would be growing new interdisciplinary strength around our GCRF-AFRICAP and GCRF-African SWIFT programmes funded through the UKRI GCRF GROW call and which include HEIs and other organisations in African countries, South of the Sahara. We have used some of the 2017-2018 QR GCRF allocation to add additional research strengths in aflatoxins and nutrition in Tanzania to GCRF-AFRICAP and to add training in High Performance Computing from the DARA project to UN World Met Office partners in GCRF-African SWIFT.
- iii. Generate impact from global development research in and beyond the sector. We will use the DARA project as a model and pump prime similar pilots across our technology platforms: innovative robotic systems; interdisciplinary materials research, data analytics.
- iv. Establish a small number of strategic, equitable partnerships with HEIs and other organisations in developing countries. This activity will be delivered through PhD and Early Career Researcher (ECR) training, joint supervision of PhD students and formalised through Transnational Education (TNE) agreements. Our aim is to nurture the next generation of researchers and establish interdisciplinary, international cohorts to tackle problems and deliver co-produced solutions to challenges faced by LMICs supported through R&I structures and mechanisms for GCRF.

We will meet the full economic costs of eligible research funded by other GCRF delivery partners where faculties are committed to developing ODA research activity and integrating this into their annual planning exercise. We meet the full economic costs of pump primed activities.

h. The main developing countries, included in the DAC list with which we are collaborating includes: Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Namibia, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Peru, Mexico, Bangladesh, India, Nepal, Pakistan, China (People's Republic of), Indonesia and Vietnam. We intend to strengthen these collaborations and pump prime new initiatives with Least developed and Lower Income countries.

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

Maximum 500 words

The main intended outcomes and impacts of our strategy are to:

- Extend our worldwide footprint of global development activity that complies with ODA guidelines through pump priming a wide range of mono-disciplinary, interdisciplinary and collaborative research projects across an extensive set of OECD DAC list countries. We will actively combine expertise across projects so

that Leeds develops a reputation as an organisation that is able to meet the complex challenges of ODA in a responsive and dynamic manner. We will introduce our collaborators from non-ODA countries into GCRF projects. These collaborators will bring their own funding from national aid agencies or global foundations. The University will become a hub that harnesses strengths from around the world and builds capacity to deliver solutions for economic development and wellbeing in DAC list countries.

- Build on our current global development successes through pump priming complementary research around them so that they become hives of ODA activity. GCRF-AFRICAP has been acknowledged by UKRI and BEIS as an innovative model and we will promote and replicate it in other areas. Leeds will develop a reputation as an innovator for ODA delivery and develop peaks of excellence in GCRF. This will make our research expertise more visible to LMIC collaborators and to the World Bank and development banks who may want to work alongside us to sustain the solutions our researchers identify for economic growth and improved wellbeing.
- Drive economic development and enhanced wellbeing through pump primed initiatives that place historical, cultural and societal challenges front and centre. This will deliver economic growth that is equitable and sustainable in-line with the UK GCRF national strategy. Leeds will be recognised as an institution that values disruptive humanities and social sciences and our global development will be more robust.
- Make capabilities within our technology platforms accessible for ODA and global development. Leeds will become a University that is able to describe the value of fundamental science to ODA and LMICs through equipping a next generation of researchers with new skills and providing them with the choice to become academics or transfer to other sectors and deliver economic development through either route.

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

The University will 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 through the GCRF Steering Group and the R&I support function.

The University's GCRF Steering Group, chaired by the DVC: Research & Innovation will oversee the QR GCRF strategy, progress and compliance and advise on appropriate allocation of QR GCRF. It includes an expert core of advisors:

- Andrew Dougill: Deputy Chair of the GCRF Steering Group, Dean of the Faculty of Environment and Professor of Environmental Sustainability. He is Theme Lead for UMFULA (Uncertainty Reduction in Models for Understanding Development Applications), a pillar in the UK DfID-NERC initiative Future Climate for Africa (£20M) which was recently awarded a rating of A++ in its DfID review.
- Tim Benton, Dean of Strategic Research Initiatives: Global Development Global Development and PI on GCRF-AFRICAP. He is Professor of Population Ecology and Distinguished Visiting Research Fellow at Chatham House. He was RCUK's Global Food Security Champion for 5 years.
- Barbara Evans: Member of UKRI's GCRF Strategic Advisory Group, Co-Director of the Centre for Global Development and Professor of Public Health Engineering. Her research includes sanitation in low income urban communities, rural sanitation and water/sanitation in cities and towns. She chairs the Strategic Advisory Group of the Joint Monitoring Programme for Water Supply and Sanitation (JMP) which reports progress against the Sustainable Development Goals for Water.
- Paul Cooke: University lead GCRF and interdisciplinary humanities. Paul has secured GCRF awards that transcend disciplines and which are led by Digital Humanities for example his AHRC award for 'Sourcing Community Solutions to Antibiotic Resistance in Nepal'. Working at the intersection of humanities, social sciences and public health, this project brings together the expertise of The Centre for World Cinemas and Digital Cultures, the Nuffield Centre for International Health and Development and HERD International, and is in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and Population in Nepal.
- Doug Parker: Joint Met Office Professor of Meteorology and Royal Society, Wolfson Merit Award Holder and Scientific Director for GCRF African SWIFT. He leads AMMA 2050 (African Monsoon Multidisciplinary Analysis 2050) on behalf of the NERC-DfID Future Climate for Africa programme.
- Melvin Hoare: Professor of Astrophysics and PI for the DARA project. He is on the Science Working Group for the next generation radio observatory the SKA which has the potential to probe planet formation and the origins of life. He also chairs the STFC grants panel for observational astronomy.
- Helen Elsey: a medic working in global public health driving the development, evaluation and scale-up of public health interventions in low income countries. Her work focuses on developing and evaluating public health interventions that reduce risks to health and well-being and improve health behaviour and access to health services among the most disadvantaged populations in Nepal, Bangladesh and Vietnam. .
- Caroline Dyer, Professor of Education and International Development, Co-Director of CGD, Chair of the Worldwide Universities Network Steering Group for the Globalisation of HE & Research (focus on UN SDG 4). Professor Dyer has

worked extensively in South Asia, in Afghanistan, Kenya, and Ethiopia and is author of 'Livelihoods and Learning: Education For All and the marginalisation of mobile pastoralists' (Routledge).

- The Head of Strategic Research Initiatives: Global Development will have responsibility for the implementation of the strategy.

The International Networks and Collaborations Team, led by the Head of Global Research Development, within the R&I support function has begun to incorporate processes for allocating GCRF QR via pump priming and tracking of these awards into its annual data track. All GCRF applications are assessed for ODA compliance ahead of submission either for pump priming or to GCRF delivery partners. Pump priming proposals are also reviewed for quality and eligibility by members of the GCRF Steering Group.

Overseas partners, including country information is recorded in an existing database – the International Data Track – and research and other outputs are tracked year on year to build an evidence base and associated narrative. Exemplars are worked into case studies and shared with GCRF delivery partners, the University's Communications Team, UK and overseas media organisations, and representatives from the FCO Science and Innovation Network.

The International Data Track enables the team to maintain a bird's eye view of pump primed research as a portfolio: where are there emerging clusters of activity? Which projects are performing better than expected? Where are there unforeseen barriers? Where might researchers benefit from an opportunity to network with one another? Is there a project which, funding permitting might benefit from an added boost to bring a LMIC partner to Leeds or to send one of the team overseas? In this way the processes and the database have become a framework for a managed approach to international research development which is complementary to one that is based on new opportunities as they develop to address key national challenges and capacity needs.

The University has a process and framework in place for due diligence led by the Head of Research Operations. This framework has been adopted widely by the sector and promoted through ARMA, the UK's professional association for research administrators. Comprehensive agreements for complex multi-disciplinary, multi-partner programmes, have been developed by the University's Contracts Team in addition to a 'lighter-touch' template for mono-disciplinary, bi-lateral awards. Where possible, agreements and due diligence are repurposed without compromising risk assessment.

Geographical spread will be integrated into the University's regional working groups each led by an academic Pro-Dean International, to enable further cross-pollination between disciplines. International and R&I quality priorities and issues will be raised at the quarterly meeting of Pro-Deans International and Pro-Deans R&I. This committee is chaired jointly by the DVC: Research & Innovation and the PVC: International.

In 2018-2019 our aim is to introduce a University log frame² to improve the planning, implementation, management, monitoring and evaluation of all GCRF projects, including pump primed awards.

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.

Maximum 200 words

The University has more than 22 projects in its GCRF portfolio and at least 20 ODA projects awarded through the Newton Fund. It is difficult to be precise about numbers and total awards for Newton projects since there are 15 delivery partners and our systems record by awarding agency, not by programme of funding. For example, a NERC Newton award with Vietnam will be recorded as a NERC project but there is no system requirement to also record it as a Newton Fund project or to record information about the overseas partner. R&I development teams keep records of projects on which they have provided support but there are academics who do not require this sort of assistance. We are reviewing how we accurately capture this data to ensure records are correct and up to date in future.

All researchers are required to complete an ODA compliance check ahead of submission to a delivery partner. Depending on the advice that is provided, some researchers decide not to proceed with a proposal or to revise and wait for a following call so the ODA compliance check provides an indication of interest but not of who has been successful in securing awards from delivery partners.

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

Through QR GCRF in 2018-2019 we will put concerted effort into consolidating interdisciplinary research and impact around 3 projects – GCRF-AFRICAP, GCRF

² A Log frame is a tool for improving the planning, implementation, management, monitoring and evaluation of projects.

African SWIFT and the DARA project - which are already interdisciplinary and have secured significant investment from GCRF delivery partners. We will do this through pump priming new research to build capability and capacity on research excellence. These 3 projects have been endorsed by UKRI review panels as programmes that are prioritising economic development and welfare in Africa, South of the Sahara.

If the funding level differs from that outlined in indicative allocations this consolidation activity will be prioritised. These 3 projects include advisory groups within developing countries who will assess novel research for ODA compliance. The PIs for all 3 projects are members of the GCRF Steering Group and will review new projects for eligibility and best fit.

The response from researchers at Leeds to GCRF has been positive and we continue to discover disciplinary strengths which might not be immediately obvious to ODA but which are lending capability to global development in creative ways. In 2018-2019, we will continue to encourage this since it is a route to impact for fundamental science. We will hold a second pump priming competition to encourage STEM researchers to think creatively about how they might contribute to global development research that is driven by humanities and social sciences.

If the funding level differs from that outlined in indicative allocations and decreases, these pump priming activities would need to be combined into a single comprehensive call. If the funding level increases, more projects could be pump primed for example, to address rapid response to emergencies or forced displacement and refugee crises. This year's QR GCRF pump priming call was oversubscribed by more than £700K. Pump priming global development research is enabling us to harness world-leading capability, increase capacity and assemble dynamic teams of interdisciplinary researchers focussing on pressing issues faced by LMICs. These teams lend their intellectual power to identifying collaborative solutions that deliver sustainable and equitable economic development and wellbeing. The GCRF steering group assesses applications for ODA compliance and research quality.

We intend to demonstrate the impact of global development research beyond our sector and plan to pump prime up to 4 pilots across our technology platforms which have a focus on upskilling and training across sectors beyond HE to empower LMICs with control over their own economic growth. If the funding level differs from that outlined in indicative allocations, this activity would need to be scaled back to deliver fewer pilots. If funding increases, we could develop more than 4 pilots in 2018-2019 in Fluid Dynamics or Water, Sanitation and Hygiene.

If the funding level differs from that outlined in indicative allocations, we would the appointment of a GCRF Post-award Coordinator will be prioritised because it is vital that projects funded by GCRF delivery partners deliver to schedule and demonstrate that they are delivering to ODA requirements. The public engagement activity to demonstrate the value of global development beyond our sector will be carried over to 2019-2020 if the allocation decreases.

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

i) Based on indicative funding allocations, our priorities for QR GCRF activity in 2019-2020 would be to consolidate research across and between ODA projects. The aim would be to generate impact from research at an accelerated pace through focusing on innovative solutions and using existing research in creative ways. QR GCRF would be oriented to a small number of 'deep dives' to maximise global development at Leeds and to ensure key ODA strengths are visible to the outside world.

We aim to hold facilitated workshops between academics and leaders in areas of perceived academic strength, and external stakeholders with an interest in those areas, to explore exactly how we should develop and package our capability for delivering ODA impact externally. Academic views of a sector are often significantly different from sectoral views, and what interests a sector may not be on an academic radar. For example, describing climate change impacts and the use of blockchain are not immediately what academics with an interest in the food industry may think of as research needs for agricultural producers and retailers. These 'deep dives' should be viewed as light touch 'Science and Innovation Audits' for global development.

ii) Pilots championed by our technology platforms will be prioritised in 2019-2020. For example, a comprehensive upskilling and training initiative in Anti-Microbial Resistance (A) would encompass molecular biology, drug discovery, pharmaceutical testing, and patient outreach and education programmes. This would directly address ODA criteria to prioritise wellbeing within LMICs. Our pilots will focus on academic skills for the next generation of researchers and also consider training needs of other sectors to enable economic growth. If the QR GCRF allocation increases, we will use it to drive innovation within the pilots and buy-out academic time where necessary to increase activity. If the QR allocation decreases we will adjust milestones within our pilots and extend plans into 2020-2021.

iii) Global outreach will be prioritised in 2019-2020 and we will use an external agency with track record in promoting the value of global development and UK Aid for our research. By 2019, we will have a portfolio of projects funded by GCRF delivery partners which are coming to fruition and we will use these to demonstrate ODA impact resulting from research. Our institutional log-frame will provide us with a bird's eye view of progress across our ODA portfolio so that we identify case studies that pack the biggest punch.

Pump priming activity will not be prioritised in 2019-2020 and instead RIDMs will work alongside research teams to secure funding from GCRF delivery partners and other agencies. The GCRF Post-award Coordinator role will be reviewed as part of on-going

work within the university to optimise post award delivery and ensure ODA is integrated into existing structures.

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

Based on indicative funding allocations, our priorities for QR GCRF activity in 2020-2021 will be to support our 'deep dives' and technology platform pilots for upskilling and training through mobility funding and to facilitate stakeholder dialogue workshops in the UK and overseas.

i) We will establish a small number of equitable partnerships with HEIs in LMICs. Our GCRF projects include historically black African universities such as LUANAR (Lilongwe University of Agriculture & Natural Resources) and Sokoine University of Agriculture in Tanzania. We will factor diversity and inclusion into our decision-making process and criteria when identifying strategic partners with the aim of nurturing the next generation of researchers to work alongside us on global development. We will formalise these partnerships through Transnational Education (TNE), joint supervision of PhD students and staff exchange. The aim is to empower these universities so that they are able to articulate their contribution to local, regional and national economies. Our pilots will identify joint degrees and training that contribute to plans for economic growth so meeting ODA criteria.

ii) In 2020-2021, QR GCRF activity will recommence on pump priming activity with a regional focus to address gaps where the University does not have a presence. This will prepare researchers for the next 5-year UK allocation of GCRF funding which we expect to be launched in 2021. We will adapt our pump priming processes from 2018-2019 assessing them for best practice mechanisms. ODA compliance and eligibility will be overseen by the GCRF steering group and managed through guidelines and our ODA compliance check. The scale of pump priming activity will be adapted in line with increases or decreases to QR GCRF funding.

iii) In 2020-2021 we expect to meet full economic costs for ODA projects being funded from GCRF delivery partners across more of our faculties. If there is widespread understanding across faculties that QR GCRF must support cutting edge research that addresses the challenges of economic development and well-being faced by developing countries on the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) Development Assistance Committee (DAC) list, we will distribute a proportion of the allocation in mainstream QR and through the usual RAM.