

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

### The strategy

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

Maximum 3,000 words

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

The University of Salford has a long history of high quality development-related research with countries in the global south, across a number of discipline areas. The objectives of this research are to work with partners in low resource countries to promote sustainability, resilience, capacity building and development in those countries. We work with communities, governments, international organisations and industry to define relevant research questions and generate meaningful and lasting impact.

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

We have recently approved our 2017-2027 Research & Knowledge Exchange (RKE) strategy. This strategy is aligned to the University's single strategic priority of Industry Collaboration Zones (ICZs) and will drive our future research priorities, objectives and investment. The vision of the RKE strategy is to be recognised as a global leader in creative research solutions to the challenges of living in the Anthropocene epoch, in which the impacts of human activity dominate our planet's climate and environment, and in which the interactions between humans, technology and the environment present unprecedented opportunities and risks.

In many cases, the challenges of the Anthropocene have a disproportionate impact on countries in the Global South; this is reflected in our priority objectives for the RKE strategy, which are positioned as five key questions, built around our research strengths:

- i. How can innovations in technology deliver improved productivity?
- ii. How can we live well for longer?
- iii. How can we house 9 billion people?
- iv. How can we maintain a planet which is beneficial for humankind and all other lifeforms?
- v. How can we manage crises without undermining civil society?

Answering these questions and delivering on our RKE strategy and development-related research objectives will require focussed investment and coordination of our research programmes. To this end, we are creating five interdisciplinary and cross-sector Research & Knowledge Exchange Beacons mapped to these questions, built around our world leading and internationally excellent research strengths, and aligned to our ICZs. The Beacons are listed below, with examples of development-related research priorities shown in parentheses:

- i. Industry 4.0 (low cost prosthetics)
- ii. Ageing and Global health (foot care in diabetes; vector borne tropical diseases, infection control/antimicrobial resistance; maternal health)
- iii. Energy, Housing and Infrastructure (sustainable infrastructure; energy efficient materials)
- iv. Environmental Quality (pollution; water quality; food security; radiation monitoring and protection)
- v. Resilience and Leadership (sustainable communities; resilience to environmental shocks; equity, health and wellbeing; cultural resilience)

Research Beacons, ICZs, GCRF priorities and Industrial Strategy challenges have been combined to form a matrix, onto which our research strengths have been mapped, providing a framework for interdisciplinary collaboration, internal investment, and industrial partnerships. This forms the basis for development of new research priorities, partnerships and applications for funding.

The University of Salford has a global reputation in the area of disaster resilience and socially inclusive disaster risk reduction. Our 2016/17 QR GCRF case study on our research that seeks to produce a safer built environment in Malaysia in response to the impacts of climate change was included in the HEFCE report to Government on the use of QR GCRF to support ODA research. In recent years we have diversified our ODA research into areas such as infrastructure, global health and midwifery, global disease, toxicology and the environment, while growing our disaster resilience and infrastructure research in DAC nations.

As we are in the implementation phase of our new Research & Knowledge Exchange Strategy, our specific priorities for future delivery of ODA research have not been fully elucidated. This is an area of increasing importance for the University of Salford, and we have a strong pipeline of research projects in development, and we are prioritising GCRF applications.

**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**

Our primary objective for QR GCRF is to fund activities which will broaden the depth, reach and impact of our ODA research, and is complementary to the support provided through our main QR allocation. Selection and allocation of QR GCRF to specific projects is undertaken in discussion with academics and Schools, and mapped against expected outcomes, ODA research criteria and fit with the RKE strategy.

Given this objective, the key aspects of our three-year strategy for QR GCRF is to:

- Strengthen and deepen existing partnerships with DAC institutions, communities and governments, building sustainable research and innovation relationships, and enabling co-creation and co-development of further funded research projects. Examples include funding for workshops to support research delivery and development of impact for 2 GCRF projects in Asia and sub-Saharan Africa
- Support capacity building and complement GCRF and other funded ODA research through the provision of match funding for funded projects, primarily through matched postgraduate research studentships. Currently the University is fully, or part-funding 4 ODA-related studentships in the areas of prosthetics and healthcare, and plans to recruit 2 students in disaster resilience. This will increase, as we prioritise GCRF applications in other areas. Capacity building funding via postgraduate research studentships is generally split between main QR allocation given to Schools, and the QR GCRF allocation managed centrally to maximise the support and ensure wider institutional commitment.
- Enable academics, communities and governments to work together to expand the reach and significance of the social and economic impact from our jointly development related research. We fund activities particularly in the area of capacity building and developing resilience in communities to allow lasting benefits and impact from our research. We work with community and governmental/non-

governmental organisations to embed new practices and policies into national policies, ensuring sustained impact and benefit. Examples include workshops with communities and local organisations to embed changes in culture and practice – for example in developing games to educate children in how best to respond to environmental shocks, and developing best practice for monitoring of prostheses

- Develop relationships and partnership with new UK and DAC institutions and countries, and support pump priming research work and data collection to underpin new ODA and GCRF funding applications

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

ODA research is a strategic research priority for the University of Salford, as evidenced by our globally-focussed research questions and creation of Beacons in these areas. The University has had excellent success so far leading two, and partnering in two, successful RCUK GCRF applications in the last year, in addition to Newton Fund, British Council and British Academy funding. The activities funded through QR GCRF are therefore prioritised to drive forward new ODA research partnerships and projects, and to strengthen and broaden the scope of existing research, particularly to deliver meaningful, long lasting impact and build capacity.

Our broader strategy for ODA research is centred around increasing our institutional capacity, and providing significant investment in ODA activities through our main QR allocation. Implementation of this strategy will arise from the implementation of our wider Research and Knowledge Exchange strategy. Specific actions are in the process of being identified, however the key areas for development include:

- Through the establishment of Research Beacons, building interdisciplinary research teams around our research strengths, aligned to our key research questions, and the priorities and challenges of the GCRF
- Identifying immediate and mid-term priorities for developing GCRF applications as lead organisation, growing and building strategic UK and DAC and non-DAC partnerships to strengthen the reach and scope of our research to build high quality, successful bids
- Strengthening and broadening collaborations and partnerships with other UK HEIs. In a number of areas we have world leading research in areas which complement and extend research conducted in partner institutions. Our priority is to expand the number and range of GCRF funded projects with which we partner, harnessing our expertise to deliver benefit to DAC nations
- Providing institutional funding through our main QR allocation for staff time to develop new partnerships and bids, including medium length sabbaticals and study leave
- Funding full economics costs of non-GCRF funded ODA research through our main QR allocation. In some cases top up funding may be provided from the QR GCRF allocation, but this is the exception rather than the rule

- Prioritising activities which can deliver greater and more meaningful impact to our partner nations and communities

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

Our Research & Knowledge Exchange strategy is driven by our research values, which speak to our commitment to ODA research: transcending traditional disciplinary boundaries; co-creating research with academia, industry and communities; benefiting societies and environments across the world; achieving international recognition through our worldwide research, partnerships and impact; being cognizant of sustainability in our research design.

- All our development-related research has at its heart the objective that the research should primarily benefit the developing countries and their communities
- Our approach is always to work in partnership with researchers, communities and governments in country, co-designing relevant and feasible research projects and delivery methods. We are committed to increasing research capacity and capability in our partner countries; between 2012-16, University of Salford academics co-authored 750 research publications with 906 academics in 242 institutions across 31 DAC countries (28 in the global south), attracting 19,165 views and generating 5,051 citations
- We fund collaborative impact activities with communities and governments, supporting implementation and evaluation of actions and solutions arising from our research, and generating meaningful and lasting impact
- Our development-related research priorities map on to the GCRF development areas and are aligned to 7 of the 17 United Nations Sustainable development goals: good health and wellbeing; clean water and sanitation; industry, innovation and infrastructure; sustainable cities and communities; climate action; life below water; and partnership for the goals
- Through Beacons, we aim to strengthen capacity, and increase the breadth and reach of our development-related research through inclusion of researchers and disciplines which have not previously been engaged with this research
- We provide match funding for GCRF and other funded development-related research, through PhD studentships or research support posts, to build capacity, including in partner countries, and to broaden the research
- We fund networking activities with both partner DAC countries, but also with other UK HEIs with complementary GCRF research interests. This supports collaboration rather than unnecessary competition and increases the reach of our ODA research.

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

The University of Salford's institutional strategy for QR allocation is under review to ensure that it is fully aligned to delivery of our Research & Knowledge Exchange strategy. Broadly, QR investment is split into four areas:

- Centralised strategic investment for research: Managed by the Research & Knowledge Exchange Division, including: networking and bid development; capacity building; match funding and impact. Strategic investment will be directed through the Research Beacons
- School research investment funds: a proportion of School QR funding is prioritised towards supporting: research and networking activities; capacity building; and match funding
- School investment in researcher time: QR funding funds workload allocation for research, particularly investment in time to develop research bids, outputs and impact
- School support for full economic costs: where research awards do not cover the full economic costs of the research, Schools fund this from the QR allocation

Our development and GCRF strategies are fully integrated into our wider QR strategy with significant match funding provided from School QR allocations. Institutional investment through Beacons will support the development of the wider capacity which is needed to grow our ODA research.

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

##### *Opportunities*

Research at the University of Salford is increasing in profile as we implement our RKE strategy, and provide a supportive and dynamic environment for all research, including ODA. Our priority is to implement interdisciplinary Research Beacons, aligned to our broad research questions and GCRF priority areas. Beacons bring together researchers from different disciplines with interests in similar areas, and build external partnerships, particularly with industry. This drives the development of new, or expansion of existing research questions and geographical partnerships. An example of this is in a recent GCRF award to develop fit for purpose, affordable body-powered prostheses for use in low resource countries where we are working with healthcare infrastructure and end users to deliver benefit and impact.

##### *Barriers*

UK's departure from the EU, and the status of international researchers remains an issue. Minimum salary thresholds for international researchers on tier 4 visas mean that only staff over a certain grade and salary can be employed within the UK. Combined with restrictions on PGR student entry into the UK, alternative methods may need to be sought to allow capacity building of DAC researchers.

A priority use of our QR GCRF is to provide match funding for GCRF and other funded ODA projects. Given the lead time between application and award, and the uncertainty of success, it is necessary to have alternative options for allocating funding to other eligible ODA research activities, should the application not be funded. To this end we maintain good relationships and dialogue with academics undertaking ODA research, and have a

strong pipeline of opportunities to enable QR GCRF to be redirected strategically towards ODA research activities which will deliver meaningful outcomes.

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 through 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

A key element of this strategy is to use the QR GCRF allocation flexibly to enable the University to harness opportunities for developing new ODA research. We have outlined below the specific plan for QR GCRF allocation for 2018/19. As we are implementing a new Research & Knowledge Exchange strategy, there may be changes to some funding not yet linked to specific projects. Any changes to this plan will be described and justified in our end of year audits. As we implement our strategy, QR GCRF will be allocated through Beacons, and targeted strategically to give the best outcome.

- **Capacity building**
  - £20,000 per year to part fund 2 PhD studentships to support an EPSRC GCRF award developing fit for purpose body powered prostheses for low and medium resource countries (DAC partners: Uganda, Jordan)
  - £20,000 per year to part fund to support an EPSRC GCRF award to build a sustainable research and innovation platform (DAC partners: Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Malaysia)
  - £7,256 in 2018/19 to part fund two PhD studentships to support charity funded research into infection control (DAC partner: Uganda)
  - £20,000 in 2018/19 allocated for match funding of 2 PhD studentships to support potential future RCUK GCRF awards. If awards are not successful, this funding will be redirected to pump priming, networking and/or impact activities (DAC partners: to be confirmed)
- **Mono, interdisciplinary, collaborative research and pump priming activities**
  - £40,000 in 2018/19 to support networking and pump priming activities to develop new ODA research projects with DAC partners. Projects to be prioritised through the Research and Knowledge Exchange strategy. We have a pipeline of projects including:
    - Acoustics and human healthcare in Indonesia
    - Infrastructure and technical systems in Brazil, China, Egypt, Malaysia, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, and Vietnam
    - Maternal health and antimicrobial resistance in Uganda and Malawi
    - Water and food quality and security in Brazil, India, Peru, and Uganda
    - Disaster resilience in Sri Lanka, Malaysia, and Pakistan
- **Generating impact through research**



- £10,000 in 2018/19 to hold a workshop on the real world monitoring of the use of prostheses to support an ESRC GCRF award (DAC partners: Uganda, Jordan, Cambodia)
- £12,000 in 2018/19 to deliver stakeholder engagement activities in three DAC countries to support an ESRC GCRF award to build a sustainable research and innovation platform (DAC partners: Sri Lanka, Malaysia, Pakistan)
- £10,000 in 2018/19 to support impact development activities in support of GCRF and other ODA research projects (DAC partners: to be confirmed)

- **Meeting the full economic costs of eligible research funded by other delivery partners**

- £20,000 in 2018/19 contribution to the full economic costs for two British Council ODA research awards investigating water purity and food security in (DAC partners: India and Brazil)

- **Rapid response to emergencies where there is an urgent research need**

- Due to the unpredictable nature of this category, no funding has been allocated to this area specifically, however with our existing partnerships and awards, we are well placed to work with HEFCE and other funding bodies immediately to determine the best response to environmental shocks.

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

We have a long history of working with DAC nations across multiple research fields. 2012-2016 University of Salford researchers co-authored 750 papers with over 900 researchers from 242 institutions in 30 DAC nations (28 of which are in the global south), generating over 19,000 views and 5,000 citations. Our top 10 DAC collaborating nations were: China; Iran; Brazil; Malaysia; Turkey; South Africa; Pakistan; India; Ukraine; and Nigeria. The fields of research vary among institution and DAC nation, however are primarily in physical science, medical and health science, ecology, social science and business and management.

As we move forward with the RKE strategy, we continue developing research in our historically strong areas, and have recently been awarded two GCRF grants: one to develop a collaborative multi-agency platform for building resilient communities, involving partnerships with Sri Lanka, Malaysia and Pakistan; and one to develop fit for purpose, affordable body-powered prostheses in partnership with Uganda and Jordan, with interest from Cambodia and Bolivia. We have established a research programme to develop sustainable professional training and mentorship for improved delivery of healthcare services in Uganda, and continue to grow research programmes into improving food and water quality in India, neglected tropical diseases in sub-Saharan Africa, and infrastructure and technology projects across the global south.



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

Maximum 500 words

This strategy is directed towards strengthening our existing GCRF and other funded ODA research, and in developing new funded ODA research.

For our existing funded research, the allocations listed in section 1 (g) are expected to deliver the following outcomes and impacts:

- GCRF project into building a sustainable research and innovation platform in Sri Lanka, Pakistan and Malaysia
  - The funded workshops will bring together researchers, communities, governmental organisations and NGOs to engage with the complex organisational structures which exist within ODA countries. This supports coordinated programmes and policies to strengthen disaster prevention and improve responses in the event of environmental shocks
  - The PhD studentships will work with partners to develop new research strands within this programme, broadening the depth and reach of the research, and improving impact delivery
- GCRF project(s) into developing fit for purpose body powered prostheses
  - The funded workshop is designed to establish effective monitoring of the use of prostheses in countries where there are a lack of clinical facilities, expertise and time to collect traditional outcome measures
  - The PhD studentships will support three different GCRF projects in the area of prosthetics linking together and to developing new research strands and improving impact delivery
- Charity funded research into infection control and antimicrobial resistance in Uganda
  - The two PhD studentships have significantly expanded research in this areas from a three year, £28,800 award into infection control from Knowledge for Change. This has enabled the research to link with other funded projects, and expand into the area of antimicrobial resistance
  - Impact/research development funding will be prioritised towards embedding new practices and potentially extending research activities
- Supporting development of new projects and impact
  - Funding to support impact will enable activities intended to work with communities and other organisations to provide toolkits and policies which will embed impact into social and institutional practice – creating meaningful and long-lasting impact
  - Networking, pump priming funding and match funding of PhD studentships is intended to develop new UK and DAC partnerships with the aim of generating successful GCRF and other ODA funding applications, the outcome of which will be new awards

- Contributing to the full economic costs of research
  - Provision of this funding will relieve pressure on Schools, and which provides the capacity to develop more non-GCRF funded projects

### **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's Dean of Research will have responsibility for the management of QR GCRF in alignment with the Research & Knowledge Exchange strategy, and as a member of the Vice Chancellor's Executive Team. Formal academic governance will be managed through the Research & Enterprise Committee, which reports up to University Senate.

Day to day management and evaluation of QR GCRF will be managed by the Research and Knowledge Exchange (RKE) Division, working with School Deans and Associate Deans Research & Innovation. Strategic prioritisation of funding allocations, in particular for pump priming and match funding for GCRF projects, will be overseen by the University's Strategic Funding Committee. While some funding will be allocated to support full economic costs of British Council and charitably funded ODA research projects, priority will be given to funding new activities such as networking, pump priming, capacity building and impact.

While every effort has been made to develop a clear plan for the allocation of funding in 2018/19 and subsequent years, the University is in the initial phase of implementing a new Research and Knowledge Exchange strategy. It is therefore possible that specific areas for QR GCRF funding may change as the strategy matures. Equally, new opportunities may arise from partnership development and our International delivery plan, and we retain flexibility to use QR GCRF to maximise those activities for the benefit of ODA research. Full justification for any changes will be provided in our annual QR GCRF audit, and all activities will be assessed to ensure compliance with ODA and GCRF criteria.

QR GCRF funding will only be allocated on the basis of clear cases for justification, which outline: the nature of the research activity and how it fits with the QR GCRF criteria; the need for the activity; aims and expected outcomes; follow-on activities (including

submission of funding grants or impact); timeframes. Proposed research activities will also be assessed for ODA eligibility and partner countries will be matched to the DAC list.

Following completion of the research activity, all researchers will be asked to provide a brief update on the use of the funds. Further evaluation and follow up will be specific to the activity undertaken and will include:

- **Capacity and capability building:**

We fund a number of activities in this area, and monitoring and evaluation is appropriate to the activity. In general, the prioritisation and allocation of funding for these activities will come under the Strategic Funding Committee, particularly where activities are part of promoting new partnerships and research activity. This Committee comprises senior academic representatives, along with representatives from Finance and Research and Knowledge Exchange. Funding for networking and partnership building workshops for researchers, institutions, communities and other organisations is awarded against clear delivery plans and objectives. Generally such activities should have the objective of developing new funding applications for GCRF or other ODA schemes, and the Strategic Funding Committee will follow up progress on the submission and success of funding applications.

Another key area for capacity building will be in providing match funding to support GCRF and ODA funded research projects. At the application stage, all match funding is overseen by the University's Strategic Funding Committee, and agreement will be reached on whether allocation of QR GCRF for this purpose is appropriate. In general, this will be the funding, or part funding of postgraduate research (PGR) studentships. The University's mechanism for match funding is normally for 50% of the bursary and tuition fees to be funded centrally from QR GCRF, with the other 50% funded from Schools from the block QR allocation. In this way we leverage maximum benefit for ODA from both the QR GCRF and standard QR allocations. Funding applications are monitored, and once successful, oversight of recruitment and progression of PGR students will be the responsibility of the University's Doctoral School support teams, working with the principal investigators and supervisors.

Other capacity building activities are discussed with Schools and assessed against the strategic research priority of the School and the University, and against ODA and QR GCRF funding criteria to ensure that activities will bring genuine benefit to the ODA research community.

- **Mono-disciplinary, interdisciplinary and collaborative research activity:**

Applications for development of new research activities, and extension of existing research to other disciplines will be managed through existing mechanisms for supporting research development. Applicants are required to submit a case for support, including how the research meets ODA and GCRF criteria, and the expected outcomes, which is assessed by a panel of senior academics. Outcomes

of the funding are assessed by RKE, according to the objectives given in the case for justification.

- **Mono-disciplinary, interdisciplinary and collaborative research activity:**  
Applications for development of new research activities, and extension of existing research to other disciplines are managed through existing mechanisms for supporting research development. Applicants are required to submit a brief case for support, including how the research meets ODA and GCRF criteria, and expected outcomes, which is assessed by a panel of senior academics. Outcomes of the funding are assessed by RKE, according to the objectives given in the case for justification.
- **Generating impact from research in and beyond the sector:**  
This aligns with the University's REF impact agenda, overseen by the REF Steering Group. Day to day management of impact is undertaken by the Impact Coordinator, working in partnership with researchers and School leads. Impact funding requests are assessed by an impact committee to ensure reach and rigour. All researchers receiving QR GCRF funding will be supported to collaborate with DAC partners and stakeholders to deliver appropriate activities and follow up/continue development of the impact. Case studies will be assessed to ensure they meet the definition of ODA research. The quality of the research and the resultant impact is assessed through the University's internal and external peer review processes.
- **Meeting the full economic costs of eligible research funded by other delivery partners:**  
The University has rigorous pre- and post-award management of research grants, overseen by the Finance Research Contracts and Monitoring Team (RCMT), working in partnership with RKE. The full economic costs of any research are captured and assessed at the research bid preparation stage, signed off by Schools and the RCMT. Spend against research awards is also monitored by the RCMT. When non-RCUK funded research projects are awarded, the difference between the funds awarded and the full economic costs are recorded and profiled per financial year. This difference is normally funded through the standard QR allocation, however RKE will work with Schools to identify priority areas for support through QR GCRF, including where there are multiple non-RCUK ODA research projects in a particular School, or where the difference between FEC and funding on a particular project is significantly disproportionate.
- **Rapid response to emergencies where there is an urgent research need:**  
Given that the timing and nature of these activities is difficult to predict, any requests for such funding will be assessed on a case by case basis. RKE will work with Schools and/or the University's Strategic Funding Committee to agree allocation of funding, and a plan for monitoring outcomes and impact.

- **Pump-priming activities to underpin GCRF and Newton Fund bids to other funders, including relationship building:**

Funding for such activities is overseen by the University's Strategic Funding Committee. Researchers provide a case for justification, outlining the area of research, compliance with ODA and GCRF criteria, partner countries, activities to be undertaken, the funding scheme to be targeted, and how the activities will enhance the probability of success. Cases will be assessed by the Committee on the basis of strategic priority, quality and merit of the proposals, and may provide feedback to enhance the quality of the activities to be undertaken. The outputs and outcomes of funded activities will be monitored by the Committee, following up on whether applications have been submitted, and their success.

At the end of the financial year, QR GCRF funded activities will be audited by RKE to ensure compliance with ODA and GCRF criteria, assess outcomes, and update the allocation plan for the following financial year. As some of the funding provided may span multiple GCRF activities, the optimal route for monitoring and evaluation of these activities will be chosen. Allocation of all QR GCRF funds will be overseen by RKE, working with Finance, allowing consistency of approach and monitoring.

As budgeting for match funding (PGR studentships) for applications to GCRF and other ODA funding schemes will be a priority for our QR GCRF allocation, there will naturally be some movement from our plan to actual activities, as not all funding applications will be successful. We have a pipeline of other ODA research activities to ensure that our QR GCRF allocation can be fully utilised to maximise ODA research outputs, outcomes and impact.

Allocation and spend of QR GCRF funds will be monitored in year. Where the profile of funded activities differs significantly from the detailed spending proposals in annex A2, the justification for this will be outlined in the end-of-year audit, and the alternative funded activities and outcomes provided.

## **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

We have worked with our academics and Schools in identifying the priorities for QR GCRF funding to ensure that money can be prioritised to the areas in which it can deliver the biggest benefits. As we implement our research strategy, prioritisation for QR GCRF will be embedded in this, and our three year strategy will be updated accordingly.

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

If funding is **decreased** from the £159,256 indicated in the supporting documentation, we will revisit the QR GCRF strategy. Prioritisation will go to the studentships already funded to ensure that students are not disadvantaged. We will also prioritise development of impact from existing funded research, to ensure maximum benefit. The next priority will be to support match funding for new GCRF and other funded projects, although the levels of this may be revised, and we may fund this from our main QR allocation. Meeting the full economic costs of non-GCRF projects is likely to be deprioritised, or reduced, depending on the funding available.

If funding is **increased**, we have a pipeline of activities from our academic groups with GCRF and other ODA funded research, which was developed as part of discussions around our QR GCRF strategy. These include:

- Acoustics and human healthcare in Indonesia
- Infrastructure and technical systems in Brazil, China, Egypt, Malaysia, Nigeria, Pakistan, Philippines, and Vietnam
- Maternal health and antimicrobial resistance in Uganda and Malawi
- Water and food quality and security in Brazil, India, Peru, and Uganda
- Disaster resilience in Sri Lanka, Malaysia, and Pakistan

We will assess these proposals against our strategy and the criteria for ODA funding and may prioritise some of these for funding. Priority will go to expanding our impact activities for our existing ODA research to deepen and strengthen the possible impact, and establish lasting mechanisms for delivery and evaluation of impact. As part of the discussions around implementation and investment of our Research and Knowledge Exchange strategy we will work with our Strategic Funding Committee to identify priorities to expand our networking and partnership development activities for developing new DAC partners and ODA research, and prioritise further match funding for GCRF applications.

In all cases, activities will be assessed against the ODA and GCRF criteria to ensure eligibility and maximum benefit, and against our Research and Knowledge Exchange strategy to ensure strategic prioritisation and institutional expertise

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

Assuming allocations are in line with the 2018/19 projection, our 2019/20 QR GCRF priorities are given below, in order of importance. Should funding be less than this, we will prioritise activities at the top of the list until funding is allocated from the QR GCRF allocation. In some cases, we may reduce the amounts allocated to each category, to ensure that we are able to fund a full and diverse portfolio of activities. Given the importance to ODA research in our overall Research and Knowledge Exchange strategy, it is likely that at least some of the remaining activities will be funded through our wider institutional investment in the strategy from our main QR allocation. If the funding allocation is increased, we will work with our lead academics, Beacon leads and Strategic Funding Committee to identify further priorities and activities for funding to maximise the impact of our research, and enable us to expand our research into new discipline areas.

While we can be more specific regarding opportunities for existing funded GCRF and other projects, our priorities for more developmental activities are indicative, pending implementation of our Research and Knowledge Exchange strategy and development of our research over the next year. In general, our highest priorities will be to continue support for our existing GCRF and other funded ODA projects to maximise the benefit arising from these proven projects, and to provide funding to promote the development of new interdisciplinary ODA research partnerships and projects.

A more detailed QR GCRF strategy will be prepared early in 2019

- Continue part funding of existing PhD studentships for our GCRF awards in disaster resilience and prosthetics, based on progression through assessment stages and appropriate performance standards (approximately £40,000)
- Fund planned workshops and engagement activities in our GCRF awards in disaster resilience and prosthetics (approximately £20,000)
- Ring fence funding to part fund 2 PhD studentships for GCRF or other funded ODA research secured in 2018/19 where Salford is either lead or partner organisation (approximately £20,000). Should we not secure additional awards, this money will be prioritised for developing new partnerships and research projects
- Ring fence funding for engagement and impact workshops for GCRF or other funded ODA research secured in 2018/19 where Salford is lead organisation (approximately £10,000). Should we not secure additional awards, this money will be prioritised for developing new partnerships and research projects



- Funding for impact activities for previously funded ODA research to monitor impact and identify new routes to impact (approximately £15,000)
- Funding activities to promote interdisciplinary collaboration between UK and DAC researchers to expand and bring new dimensions to existing funded projects and in new strategic areas with the aim of securing new GCRF or other ODA awards (approximately £15,000)
- Funding new partnership development and pump priming to support the development of new research areas and partner countries and to develop successful funding applications for GCRF and other ODA schemes (approximately £10,000)
- Continue to part fund full economic costs for non-GCRF awards, where a particular School has a number of such awards, or where there is a significant difference between the full economic costs and the amount awarded (approximately £30,000)

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

Assuming allocations are in line with the 2018/19 projection, our 2020/21 QR GCRF priorities are given below, in order of importance. Should funding be less than this, we will prioritise activities at the top of the list until funding is allocated from the QR GCRF allocation. In some cases, we may reduce the amounts allocated to each category, to ensure that we are able to fund a full and diverse portfolio of activities. Given the importance to ODA research in our overall Research and Knowledge Exchange strategy, it is likely that at least some of the remaining activities will be funded through our wider institutional investment in the strategy from our main QR allocation. If the funding allocation is increased, we will work with our lead academics, Beacon leads and Strategic Funding Committee to identify further priorities and activities for funding to maximise the impact of our research, and enable us to expand our research into new discipline areas.

While we can be more specific regarding opportunities for existing funded GCRF and other projects, our priorities for more developmental activities are indicative, pending implementation of our Research and Knowledge Exchange strategy and development of our research over the two years. A more detailed QR GCRF strategy will be prepared in early 2020. In general, our highest priorities will be to continue support for our existing GCRF and other funded ODA projects to maximise the benefit arising from these proven projects, and to provide funding to promote the development of new research partnerships and projects. If, as is hoped, our portfolio of funded GCRF and other ODA projects increases, we will need to assess the balance between supporting existing projects and developing projects in new areas, to ensure we can continue to grow our ODA research and impact.

A more detailed QR GCRF strategy will be prepared early in 2020

- Continue part funding of existing PhD studentships for our GCRF applications in disaster resilience and prosthetics, based on progression through assessment stages and appropriate performance standards (£40,000). In 2020/21, these students will be in their final year and, where relevant, we will aim to work with those students to secure follow on postdoctoral fellowship or project funding to continue the research and develop capacity in these areas.
- Fund planned workshops and engagement activities in our GCRF awards in disaster resilience and prosthetics (approximately £20,000)
- Ring fence funding to part fund 2 PhD studentships for GCRF or other funded ODA research secured in 2018/19 where Salford is either lead or partner organisation (approximately £20,000). Should we not secure additional awards, this money will be prioritised for developing new partnerships and research projects
- Ring fence funding for engagement and impact workshops for GCRF or other funded ODA research secured in 2018/19 where Salford is lead organisation (approximately £10,000). Should we not secure additional awards, this money will be prioritised for developing new partnerships and research projects
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- Funding new partnership development and pump priming to support the development of new research areas and partner countries and to develop successful funding applications for GCRF and other ODA schemes (approximately £10,000)
- Continue to part fund full economic costs for non-GCRF awards, where a particular School has a number of such awards, or where there is a significant difference between the full economic costs and the amount awarded (approximately £30,000)