



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

The strategy

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

Strategy and Priority Objectives

Arts University Bournemouth (AUB) is a specialist provider of high quality teaching, learning, research and scholarship in arts, design, architecture, media and performance. It has research strengths in specialist disciplinary and inter-disciplinary research that includes both theoretical and practice-based research. AUB's research strategy is committed to ensuring that it has impact on economic development,

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

society, culture, public policy or services, health, the environment, or quality of life, and social welfare beyond academia. Much of the creative practice led research is dominated by the use of ideas led innovation, which is supported by the use of industry compliant and cutting edge equipment for the physical realisation of research projects.

This wider research strategy will enable a greater focus from 2018-19 for AUB to use QR GCRF allocations according to Official Development Assistance (ODA) principles i.e. research that is directly and primarily of benefit to the problems of developing countries. The main objective for this allocation will be to promote the economic development and social and cultural welfare of developing countries. The funding will be used to support activity in countries on the list of ODA recipients produced by the Development Assistance Committee (DAC). In particular, AUB intends to use QR GCRF to strengthen existing relationships and to foster new partnerships, which will have impact both economically and socially.

There is strong evidence that creativity and practice led research can impact exponentially in developing countries. For example, as part of AUB's current research strategy, we are able to provide evidence and experience of conducting research in DAC countries including China, South Africa, India, Brazil and Tanzania. For example, Becca Savoury Fuller, Lecturer for BA (Hons) Acting is undertaking a UK India Education Research Initiative (UKIERI) funded PhD with the National Institute of Advanced Studies (NIAS) in Bangalore and the South Asian Research Centre, University of Exeter; Dr. Jonathan Croose, Senior Lecturer in BA (Hons) Costume with Performance Design, undertook a research project that explored attitudes within the arts community in Rio de Janeiro in the 2016 Olympics; and Dr. Christian McLening recently submitted a bid to UKIERI exploring acoustics within rammed earth building in partnership with the School of Architecture and Planning (SPA), New Delhi, India.

Furthermore, AUB has partnerships with other institutions in countries on the DAC list including Sichuan Fine Arts Institute, China, with which it has an established programme of professorial exchange.

QR GCRF funding

Arts University Bournemouth's mission is to be the leading professional arts university turning creativity into careers. AUB's strategy for QR GCRF funding will be to use its research expertise in the creative industries to support small-scale projects that will tackle particular key challenge areas identified by UKRC. Given the academic expertise at the University these projects are expected to address i) sustainable livelihoods supported by strong foundations for inclusive economic growth and innovation and/or ii) sustainable cities and communities and design for rural habitats.

The QR funding that AUB receives is primarily used to support the development of its research environment in two ways. Firstly, through offering studentship and bursaries to support the development of its research degrees provision and, secondly, by providing small amounts of funding to pump-prime projects leading to the realisation of research outputs targeted towards Early Career Researchers. QR GCRF funding will build on this by facilitating opportunities for research activity that supports the economic development and welfare of developing countries and to foster new partnerships.

Given that the funding awarded to AUB through QR GRCF will be modest, at just over £6k per annum, the allocation will be used to fund one or two small-scale projects. These will be awarded by an annual open competition for funding to support new projects or further develop existing projects. Projects may be eligible for continuation funding if they can demonstrate additionality. Applicants will need to complete a detailed application form setting out the problem they will investigate which will have an impact on a developing country; aims and objectives; how they might address the issues and identify appropriate pathways to impact. They will need to demonstrate ODA compliance. Matched funding may also be sought from existing AUB internal funding streams, which includes support for time (Research Fellowships) and activity (research support).

QR GRCF funding will be targeted to further existing partnerships with researchers and other organisations in developing countries such as the partnership with SPA in India. However, offering an open call will allow opportunity to all our academic staff to put forward innovative proposals. It is hoped that this will increase the engagement of the AUB research community with international development challenges, albeit on a small scale.

Key activities

The key activities by which AUB will realise its objectives will be through pump-priming projects including facilitating networking meetings and other events to support future activities and the generation of preliminary data for future applications. Whilst projects can encompass mono-disciplinary research, partnerships with academics at other UK institutions to realise interdisciplinary and cross-collaborative projects would be encouraged.

Key barriers and enablers to implementing your strategy

Key enablers to implementing the strategy include existing expertise in the institution and a robust application process, which will ensure that projects are realistic, achievable and deliverable from the outset and can realise outputs and impact that will support developing countries. The key barrier to implementing the strategy is the modest funding available which allows only very small-scale projects to be

undertaken. But in developing AUBs research culture in respect of global challenges we believe this to be a useful and practical investment.

Main Development Assistance Committee (DAC) list developing countries AUB intends to collaborate with

AUB expects to collaborate with developing countries where it already has experience of working including India, China and Brazil.

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

The intended outcomes of the strategy are to realise innovative small-scale projects. with the potential to demonstrate impact on the developing country(s) identified in the application. Given that the funding will be awarded by open competition it is impossible to say at this stage what the intended outcomes and impacts will be, other than in general terms. It is intended that the outcomes and impact will provide for greater and increased collaborations and build capacity that might otherwise not be possible. It is envisaged that the QR GRCF funding will be captured in case study examples to share findings and outcomes.

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.

AUB's main committee which ensures the research strategy is being delivered is the Research and Knowledge Transfer committee which is a sub committee of Academic Board. This committee is chaired by the Deputy Vice Chancellor. With the research office, and led by the research manager, AUB already has robust mechanisms in place to monitor all funding awarded either internally or externally. All awards are given an individual budget code, which is controlled by AUB finance department. Approval has to be given by the budget holder before funding can be drawn down by award holders. Receipts or invoices must be provided for all expenditure. Finance provides monthly reports to the Research office to enable monthly overview of spend. All projects have to be approved by AUB's Research Ethics Committee. All projects are auditable by external auditors.

Award holders of external funding work with Finance, and the research office to ensure that projects are delivered and reported on in accordance with the funding bodies' policies.

Similarly staff awarded AUB funding are expected to deliver their projects in accordance with AUB policies. All award holders are advised on the reporting mechanisms at the outset and must submit reports on their activity at the end of the project.

For QR GCRF funded projects the Research Office will devise a reporting form detailing required fields including progress, outcomes, lessons learnt and ODA compliance. Staff will be required to report annually and on the conclusion of their project. Research and Knowledge Transfer Committee holds responsibility for monitoring projects and for ensuring ODA compliance.

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.

The table in Annex A2 has been completed in line with the strategy for use of the GCRF 2018-19 allocation as detailed in this document. As AUB is proposing to issue an open call for projects, the detail of the outputs and impacts are not yet known, but the response rate to such calls within the academic community of AUB tends to be strong and we are confident of a good response.

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.

The priorities and activities would not change if the funding level differed from that outlined in indicative allocations. However, the scale of the activity would need to be revisited should funding be reduced or increased. AUB would also review the number of projects that it could support through this funding.

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.

Given the modest funding awarded to AUB, it is expected that priorities will remain the same for activity in 2019-20 as detailed previously in this document.

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.

Given the modest funding awarded to AUB, it is expected that priorities will remain the same for activity in 2020-21 as detailed previously in this document.