

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

Keele University is committed to delivery of cutting-edge research that aims to tackle some of the world's most urgent problems. These aims are enshrined in our strategic plan, which sets out a commitment to delivering international excellence and impact by undertaking world-leading research that transforms understanding and brings benefit to society, communities and individuals. Our strategy for development related and GCRF research activity is set in the context of this overarching approach.

Keele's research has a global reach. The University has a strong track record of carrying out development-related research and has been successful in gaining funding for a broad range of projects that seek to address global challenges. Our portfolio of health-related projects with a development focus currently totals just under £1m. We are currently involved in five GCRF funded projects which focus on a diverse range of topics, including: public health forced displacement, and food safety. In addition, over the past two years we have also been involved in twelve Newton funded projects.

Key funded projects include: Transforming Primary Healthcare in the Philippines, Stories Of public health through Local-Art Based Community Engagement (SOLACE), and Improving Food Safety by Reducing Pesticide Residues: Developing a Pheromone Alternative to Insecticides for Control of Thrips on Legumes in Kenya.

The aim of our QR GCRF Strategy will be to further develop this strong development related and GCRF research track record by (1) increasing capacity to undertake development-related research; (2) undertaking mono-disciplinary, interdisciplinary and collaborative research; (3) maximising the impact of existing projects; and (4) pump priming new research activities.

Specific objectives include: (1) enhanced collaborative research activity with DAC countries - measured via increased volume and value of development-related funded research projects; (2) development of a network of DAC partners to underpin future collaborative activities; (3) increased intentionally co-authored outputs with DAC countries; (4) evidence of demonstrable impact of research outcomes in DAC countries.

The University has established three interdisciplinary research institutes focused on the following key themes:

Global health
Sustainable futures
Social inclusion

These institutes have a collective role in supporting delivery of the University research strategy and are intended to act as a platform for development related and GCRF research. Each of the institutes has a track record in developing research that aims to address global challenges. Keele's strategy for development related and GCRF research activity will be delivered via the Institutes, which will provide an academic and organisational focus for undertaking development-related research.

Our approach to delivery of the strategy will be to build on the expertise within these institutes to facilitate the development of new interdisciplinary and collaborative research activity that sustainably builds on existing strengths and promotes the economic development and welfare of developing countries. We will do this via delivery of a suite of mono-disciplinary, interdisciplinary and collaborative research projects that align closely to Keele's research expertise and also global challenge funding priorities.

The projects identified as part of this activity will have three key roles: (1) they will act as pump-priming activities, underpinning collaborative bids to GCRF, Newton Fund and other funders; (2) they will support development of capacity, both within Keele and with collaborators in DAC countries, to enhance collaborative research activities and knowledge sharing; and (3) they will maximise the impact of previously funded research by providing mechanisms for dissemination and application of the knowledge derived from these projects, with the aim of translating the knowledge developed from existing research into sustainable social and economic impacts that promote economic development and welfare in developing countries.

Global Health

The aim of the Institute of Global Health is to develop a world leading programme of research that focuses on addressing the challenges identified in the United Nations' (UN) Sustainable Development Goals related to health and well-being, with a particular focus on the third UN Global Goal for Sustainable Development: achieving good health and wellbeing for all, which sets out the following aims:

Fighting communicable disease
Reducing mortality from non-communicable disease and promoting mental health

Preventing and treating substance misuse
Universal health coverage
Supporting research, development and universal access to affordable vaccines and medicines
Increasing workforce support for developing countries
Improving early warning systems for global health risks

Keele's is well placed to address these challenges. We have a strong track record of carrying out research into non-communicable disease, with particular strengths in research related to mental health and musculoskeletal disorders - the two globally-leading causes of long-term disability. Through the Institute of Global Health and in the context of the strategy for development-related and GCRF research, we will seek to broaden the focus, scope and reach of this research, working closely with our existing network of high-quality international collaborators. Key projects are as follows:

- (1) Identification & management of common mental health problems, working with partners in the Philippines
- (2) Testing the effectiveness of traditional Ayurvedic therapy for people with non-communicable diseases, working with partners in Sri Lanka
- (3) Developing routinely collected electronic medical records for use in public health surveillance, working with partners in Malaysia, Indonesia and Thailand
- (4) Developing mechanisms to avoid burn-out, stress and substance misuse in health professionals, working with partners in sub-Saharan Africa

Sustainable Futures

The aim of the Institute of Sustainable Futures is to develop an innovative and interdisciplinary programme of research that aims to address key environmental and social challenges to securing sustainability. The Institute has a track record of carrying out development related and GCRF research. The Institute's research themes align directly with two key Global Challenge Research Funding priorities: equitable access to sustainable development and sustainable economies and societies. Under these themes, Key projects are as follows:

- (1) Improving food security by reducing crop losses from insect pests and striga weed in smallholder farmer crops in Africa
- (2) Building up affordable and reliable energy production and storage technologies to complement renewable energy generation for small and remote communities in Micronesia, Polynesia, Melanesia and Indonesia
- (3) Sustainable consumption to reduce plastic waste in East Asia

Social Inclusion

Achieving a greater degree of social inclusion is of critical importance to the development of just, integrated, diverse, cohesive and thriving societies in an increasingly interdependent world. The aim of the Institute for Social Inclusion is to develop and promote a wide range of interdisciplinary research projects that aim to identify, explain and overcome specific social, economic and cultural obstacles to egalitarian respect and social inclusion on an international scale.

The Institute's research themes align directly with the Global Challenge Research Funding priorities around human rights, good governance and social justice, sustainable economies and societies and equitable access to sustainable development. Under these themes, key projects are as follows:

- (1) Improving educational attainment amongst Syrian Refugee children in Lebanon
- (2) Foreign investment, labour market and employment relations in Kenya
- (3) Assisting, monitoring and promoting access to justice in India
- (4) Advancing knowledge of experience of living and ageing with HIV in South Africa

The key barrier to delivery of Keele's development research strategy is capacity. Our strategy for development related and GCRF research activity builds on existing relevant research activities and in order to develop these activities further, targeted investment of QR GCRF is vital in ensuring researchers have both the time and resource required to develop and maintain effective and sustainable collaborations with partners in DAC countries.

Keele utilises its core QR funding allocation to directly underpin implementation of its broad strategic aims related to research, which include development-related research. Allocation of QR GCRF funding will follow a similar model and will enable Keele to target strategic QR investment specifically towards addressing identified global challenge priorities that map closely to our existing research expertise. This will support capacity building in the context of development-related research, allowing us to broaden and deepen existing research partnerships with DAC countries and develop new collaborations. It will also enable us to invest in, and grow, people-based capacity at Keele to undertake development-related research and ensure effective dissemination of research, outcomes and impacts in the UK and developing countries.

Utilising the Institutes as the platform for delivery of the strategy is a significant enabler of success. The Institutes will ensure continued alignment between GCRF priorities and Keele's research expertise. They also provide an effective project management monitoring and reporting framework.

Linked to the above, as a key enabler of the strategy, we plan to launch a University-wide Keele Global Challenge Research Network (KGCRN). This network will bring together researchers from across the University with expertise in development-related research, and will act as a mechanism for sharing best practice, generating ideas and ensuring that the University maximises the opportunities presented by government investment in global challenge research. The group will also aim to develop targeted mechanisms to support capacity building in the context of development-related research.

Keele has a strong track record of collaborating with countries that are on the OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC) list. The main developing countries, included in the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) list, which we intend to collaborate with are as follows:

Bangladesh
Central African Republic
China

Fiji
India
Indonesian islands
Kenya
Lebanon
Malaysia
Micronesia
Morocco
Nigeria
Pakistan
Papua New Guinea
Philippines
Solomon Islands
South Africa
Sri Lanka
Thailand
Vanatu
Zambia

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

Maximum 500 words

Outcomes and impacts related to specific projects are set out in detail in Annex A2. All projects include outcomes and impacts intended to directly benefit developing countries. For each of the outcomes and impacts identified below, we will devise criteria for evaluation of success as part of the detailed project planning process:

- (1) Capacity building to enhance expertise of healthcare professionals in Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Zambia, Namibia, Botswana, Brazil, South Africa, Malaysia, Thailand, Indonesia, China, Philippines
- (2) Improving the quality of education and training in key clinical and research areas in Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Zambia, Namibia, Botswana, Brazil, South Africa, Malaysia, Thailand, Indonesia, China, Philippines
- (3) Enhancing existing collaborations with researchers and NGOs in Sub Saharan Africa to facilitate impact of GRCF-funded research on pest control to improve food security
- (4) Growing people-based research capacity in sustainable energy in DAC countries through collaborations with partners
- (5) Growing capability of interdisciplinary research to address sustainable consumption challenges and to enhance existing collaborations in Asia
- (6) Development and delivery of a suite of capacity building activities that aims to enhance teacher training and curriculum development in Lebanon
- (7) Development and dissemination of a robust intelligence on foreign direct investment which contributes to the development of evidence-based policy in Kenya
- (8) Development and delivery of a suite of mechanisms to support access to justice in India
- (9) Improved understanding of the experience of living and ageing with HIV in South Africa, contributing to the development of evidence based policy and practice

In addition, we have also identified a number of outcomes and impacts that will be of more general benefit to developing countries:

- (1) Developing research capacity within Keele and DAC collaborators to develop further funded collaborative research programmes: measured by number of partnerships, volume of collaborative projects, grant applications and published outputs
- (2) Production of a strong evidence base that underpins development of policy and practice improvements globally: measured by review of evidence on demonstrable policy and practice impacts
- (3) Publication of high impact papers, with the aim of enhancing knowledge and understanding in the UK and globally: measured by number of papers co-authored with international partners, international citation of published papers

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

In order to ensure an effective approach to management, monitoring and evaluation of development-related activities, Keele will establish a QR GCRF Steering Group. This group will monitor and evaluate progress of existing projects and provide a mechanism for approval and oversight of new projects.

Keele will utilise its three research institutes as mechanisms for delivery of the development-related research agenda. At the outset, the research team leading each project will be asked to develop a detailed project plan. The project plan will include information on the core objectives of the project, a detailed timetable, a list of key activities, a set of deliverables/KPIs and a monitoring plan. These will be reviewed and approved by the QR GCRF Steering Group.

In order to monitor progress against deliverables, each Institute will be required to produce bi-annual reports on performance and expenditure across all projects led by them. The framework for these reports will be developed in line with institutional reporting requirements for QR GCRF. These reports will be reviewed by the GCRF Steering Group, with progress reports formally reported to University Research Committee on a bi-annual basis.

In order to ensure ODA compliance, in advance of project commencement, Keele will develop and disseminate easy to use guidance to each of the Institutes, making this available online also, and will provide training to researchers via the Research and Innovation Support Enhancement team, which will offer dedicated professional expertise in this area.

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

All countries listed have been checked against the DAC country list
All projects have been reviewed to ensure that they are directly and primarily of benefit to the problems of developing countries

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

In the event that funding differs from that outlined in the indicative allocations, we would undertake a review of the identified projects and prioritise. Our approach would be to prioritise those projects that aim to have an impact on the least developed and low income countries as per the DAC list.

On this basis, the following have been identified as high priority projects:

- (1) Improving food security by reducing crop losses from insect pests and striga weed in smallholder farmer crops in Africa
- (2) Developing mechanisms to avoid burn-out, stress and substance misuse in health professionals in Central African Republic and South Africa
- (3) Foreign investment, labour market and employment relations in Kenya
- (4) Building up affordable and reliable energy production and storage technologies to complement renewable energy generation for small and remote communities in Micronesia, Polynesia, Melanesia and Indonesia
- (5) Sustainable consumption to reduce plastic waste in East Asia

Lower priority projects:

- (1) Advancing knowledge of experience of living and ageing with HIV in South Africa
- (2) Identification & management of common mental health problems: working with partners in the Philippines
- (3) Assisting, monitoring and promoting access to justice in India
- (4) Testing the effectiveness of traditional Ayurvedic therapy for people with non-communicable diseases with partners in Sri Lanka
- (5) Developing routinely collected electronic medical records for use in public health surveillance with partners in Malaysia, Indonesia and Thailand
- (6) Improving educational attainment amongst Syrian Refugee children in Lebanon

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

Our priorities for QR GCRF funding for 2019-20 will align to established GCRF priorities and the research expertise offered by Keele's research institutes. It is anticipated that work in this area will build on the projects and partnerships established via the 2018-19 programme, which will be reviewed and evaluated in terms of performance and continued fit with DAC priorities

In order to ensure an engaged approach, identification of new or emerging priority projects will take place in active collaboration with DAC partners, to ensure close alignment of identified problems and solutions.

The QR GCRF Steering Group will evaluate existing and proposed projects using the following criteria drawn from ODA guidelines:

- (1) Strength of focus on problems and solutions.
- (2) Strength of underpinning research excellence
- (3) Strength and sustainability of underpinning partnerships in developing countries
- (4) Likelihood of positive impact on the economic development and welfare needs of developing countries

In order to prioritise activities related to QR GCRF in 2019-20, we will adopt the same approach as outlined in section 6, prioritising those projects that aim to have an impact on the least developed and low income countries as per the DAC list

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

Our priorities for QR GCRF funding for 2020-21 will align to established GCRF priorities and the research expertise offered by Keele's research institutes. It is anticipated that work in this area will build on the projects and partnerships established via the 2019-20 programme, which will be reviewed and evaluated in terms of performance and continued fit with DAC priorities

In order to ensure an engaged approach, identification of new or emerging priority projects will take place in active collaboration with DAC partners, to ensure close alignment of identified problems and solutions.

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In order to prioritise activities related to QR GCRF in 2020-21, we will adopt the same approach as outlined in section 6, prioritising those projects that aim to have an impact on the least developed and low income countries as per the DAC list

