

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.

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 Winchester is a values-driven institution with an Anglican foundation. As stated on the University's website, 'we are a community committed to making a difference, passionate about seeing individuals and communities flourish.' There are three key values which drive the University's work: compassion, individuals matter and spirituality. Embodied in these values is the quest for social justice and to empower individuals to make a difference to the world. These values clearly align with the government's aid strategy 'to meet [the UK's] moral obligation to the world's poorest' (BEIS 2017, p,1).

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

This strategy document is written in the context of the University of Winchester's positioning not only as a University with a faith foundation, but also as a relatively small HEI with a portfolio which largely falls outside the STEM agenda. Whilst the aim of the GCRF is 'to ensure UK science takes the lead in addressing the problems faced by developing countries...' (BEIS 2017, p,1), the University of Winchester's contribution lies primarily in BEIS' acknowledged need for the further requirement of researchers from other fields including the arts and humanities and social sciences, to work across disciplines (p. 2).

The aforementioned mission and values drive the University's strategy for development-related research. The priority objectives for the three years from 2018-2019 onwards are:

- to extend existing work in reconciliation and peace building
- to increase capability in development-related research
- to pump-prime new projects in migration and global health

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.

Years 1, 2 and 3 retain a continuous theme of capability building. Each year a proportion of the funds will be allocated to the strategic hiring of consultants. Their focus will be to up-skill researchers at different career stages to undertake high quality, impactful development-related research. In particular, this will facilitate the emergence of projects in new areas which will be supported in years 2 and 3.

Year 1 focuses on building on established research in reconciliation and peace building. This is driven by The Winchester Centre of Religion, Reconciliation and Peace which is dedicated to helping to create a free, just and peaceful world. It actively shares excellence in knowledge, understanding, skills, relationships, and best practice in reconciliation and peace, with people of all religions and none. It focuses on supporting communities affected by conflict and their leaders, practitioners of reconciliation and peace, and academics seeking greater understanding and dissemination of ways to sustainable peace.

Year 2 focuses on pump priming for a new project on migration, alongside the continued investment in building capability.

Year 3. focuses on pump priming for a new project on global health, alongside the continued investment in building capability.

Specifically, this three year strategy aligns with the following GCRF priorities:

Human rights, good governance and social justice:

- reduce conflict and promote peace, justice and humanitarian action
- understand and respond effectively to forced displacement and multiple refugee crises

Equitable access to sustainable development:

- sustainable health and well-being

Furthermore, all work will address specific problems and solutions faced by relevant countries in a collaborative approach and underpinned by research excellence, in line with GCRF criteria.

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

As detailed in the University's Research and Knowledge Exchange Strategy 2015-2020, the 'goal is to address fundamental and strategically important questions and to deliver economic, social and cultural impact at regional, national and international levels' (p. 1). The research detailed in this document exemplifies these aims at international level, simultaneously embodying our values-driven mission to seek social justice and support the flourishing of individuals and communities.

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

The proposed major research project for the first year is on **reconciliation and peace**. It relates directly to GCRF's third priority of 'Human Rights, Good Governance and Social Justice', and more specifically the reduction of conflict and promote peace, justice and humanitarian action. In line with recent scholarship the GCRF recognises that there is a significant body of research which has explored the relationship between conflict and development; and it is widely accepted that violent conflict is one of the biggest barriers to effective and sustainable development. In addition, more structural forms of conflict such as inequality, discrimination, and oppression, also significantly hinder sustainable development efforts. Evidently without the formation of more peaceful and inclusive societies many of the Sustainable Development Goals cannot be achieved.

One area of peacebuilding which is central to reducing and preventing conflict, and promoting peace and justice, is 'reconciliation'. Whilst as a concept reconciliation is contested, it is also recognised as being an essential element of the process of bringing individuals and communities back together after violent and/or structural conflict. This project will therefore help fulfil the objectives of GCRF (embedding and promoting human rights, good governance and social justice) by critically examining the theories and practices of reconciliation in a number of diverse contexts. The idea has developed as a direct result of a number of requests to Centre for Religion, Reconciliation and Peace for help, and formalises the response to such requests.

Across all three years, the University will use funds to **build capability** for all academics with interests in development-related research with ODA countries, at all career levels, in line with GCRF criteria for use of funds. This will extend and strengthen infrastructure to create new projects in different areas.

In years two and three, the University will focus funds on providing **pump priming** for new projects in **migration** and **global health** respectively. These support the UK Strategy for the GCRF through alignment with: the Human Rights, Good Governance and Social Justice priority's aim to understand and respond effectively to forced displacement and multiple refugee crises; and the Equitable Access to Sustainable Development priority's aim to create sustainable health and well-being. These two areas of work are emerging areas of expertise within the University, hence some funds will be used to build capability in order to support their development.

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

The University's wider strategy for distributing QR funding focuses on developing an enhanced submission to REF 2021 in terms of outputs, impact and environment. This strategy is implemented in an inclusive way which recognises the varied career trajectories of academics (from practitioners through to internationally excellent and world leading researchers). Funds are distributed on the basis of merit, balanced with strategic direction of emerging and established Units of Assessment, all underpinned by the University's quest for social justice and intention to empower individuals to make a difference to the world.

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

Likely key barriers

As a small University, relatively small amounts of research funding are a potentially limiting factor to growing our development-related research agenda

As a small University, developing a critical mass of researchers with expertise in development-related research, and with similar areas of interest, is challenging

Potential enablers

The University's pro-active response to serving the common good, and its research agenda, aiming to address global issues in line with our vision, mission and values

Commitment from the University to support RKE infrastructure and activities and realise the aims and objectives of the RKE Strategy

A well-established (since 2010) research centre engaged in this type of work - The Winchester Centre of Religion, Reconciliation and Peace - which has an excellent track record of research, knowledge exchange and impact in the field. The Centre has acted as consultants for the Foreign and Commonwealth Office on prevention of sexual violence in conflict, and has engaged with representatives from the Department for Development on development issues and religion.

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.

The University, as noted above in (b) seeks to build on existing expertise and also build capability to enable established and emerging researchers working in different areas of development-related research to expand their activities.

The key focus will be on small groups of academics working collaboratively both at the University but also with colleagues in developing countries. Where appropriate, collaborations are encouraged to be interdisciplinary in nature. Colleagues are increasingly being facilitated to work across disciplines through internal initiatives such as a current competition for interdisciplinary PhD studentships, a review of existing Research Centres, and upcoming Researcher Development Events focusing on networking for interdisciplinarity.

h. The main Development Assistance Committee (DAC) list developing countries you intend to collaborate with.

The initial focus on reconciliation and peace lies with Myanmar, Nepal, South Sudan and Somalia, with whom relationships are already established in this field.

In the second and third years, additional collaborations will be built with other countries where reconciliation and peace will be relevant, and partnerships with new countries will emerge in line with our themes of migration and global health – with Rwanda being an anticipated partner.

All of these countries are in the DAC's category of 'least developed countries'.

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

Maximum 500 words

Reconciliation and peace outcomes and impacts

Improved knowledge and understanding of the role and influence of culture and context on understandings and expectations of reconciliation

An evidence based model of participative inquiry which can be used in any context to help enhance understandings of reconciliation processes, and help support the development and implementation of strategies for rebuilding relationships and bringing communities back together after violent conflict

Feedback from communities on its effectiveness will evidence impact, measured particularly in the longer term by communities' experience of sustained periods of peace

Capability building outcomes and impacts

Consultancy and workshops aimed at researchers at different career stages

Support for academics in building relations with universities and civil society organisations in developing countries, evidenced by new partnerships

Up-skilled researchers will be able to undertake more effective development-related research particularly in the three fields stated in this strategy, leading to impacts particular to their research themes

Pump priming outcomes and impacts

Two new projects in additional areas - migration and global health - to address needs of communities in developing countries as relevant in 2019-2021 and in line with staff expertise available at that time

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

Prior to commencing research funding by GCRF, the project leader will submit a plan to the relevant committee (Faculty RKE Senate or RKE Senate) which includes a statement relating to ODA compliance. Scrutiny by the committee(s) ensures that the research will be directly and primarily relevant to the problems of developing countries, which are on the current list – and that the research meets the criteria set out in the current ODA GCRF Guidance (or its successive documents).

All research proposals requiring ethical approval will need to proceed through the University's ethics process as laid out in the RKE Ethics Policy. Where relevant to the nature of the project, consideration of the ethical implications of working in developing countries will require articulation in the request for ethical approval.

Any overseas travel is regulated by the Fieldwork and Overseas Travel Health Safety Policy and Guidance which includes threat analysis, risk assessment, emergency response planning and insurance.

Following all overseas travel, staff must submit an evaluation form to the VC's office – a process which facilitates the opportunity for 'lessons learned' to be articulated and subsequently disseminated through Faculty RKE Senate and Senate RKE as appropriate.

For projects using GCRF, the lead academics will submit a report to the appropriate Faculty RKE Senate, enabling the committee to scrutinise the activity, outputs, outcomes and economic and social impacts as relevant. The reports will be subsequently submitted to RKE Senate for additional scrutiny to monitor and ensure ODA compliance. A narrative will provide a comprehensive overview of the outcomes. To enable further rigour, project leads are invited to present their paper and respond to any questions posed by committee members to enable a thorough evaluation; and also to present findings to wider audiences both internal and external.

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 table has been completed with the following ODA compliance criteria in mind: to ensure that research is directly and primarily of benefit to countries in need of reconciliation and peace strategies. Specifically, the countries with whom collaboration exists and are intended are those counted by the DCA as the least developed.

The work is directly related to focusing on the problems and solutions needed in areas of conflict in the poorest countries, and is underpinned by research excellence, and undertaken through close collaboration with the overseas partners. This is evidenced by current peace and reconciliation work where a participative inquiry framework is employed.

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

The University would be highly appreciative of the potential indicative funds (c£32,209). It recognises that changes to this (relatively small) amount may require significant re-planning, which is accepted and anticipated at this stage. The research project priority for 2018-19 would remain with the overarching theme of reconciliation and peace given that the Centre has a strong track record in the field; but also begin to prepare for new areas of work for other colleagues through capability building.

Should the sum be lowered, colleagues working on reconciliation and peace would be able to apply to internal QR funding pots to supplement a small amount of the shortfall, but would also be expected to apply to external funding bodies; should the latter be unsuccessful, the University would anticipate extending the project into year 2, supported by a small proportion of the funds intended for one of the new areas.

If the amount was increased, the amount would be directed towards increasing the allocation for capability building which in the longer term will expedite the creation of interdisciplinary teams to work on new projects addressing different priorities of the GCRF.

These activities meet the following ODA criteria:

The reconciliation and peace theme aligns with the **Human Rights, Good Governance and Social Justice** priority, specifically to 'reduce conflict and promote peace, justice and humanitarian action'.

The reconciliation and peace theme meets ODA criteria through its focus on working collaboratively with ODA countries (in the DAC's least developed category) which are facing problems created by conflict and are seeking solutions leading to the sustainability in preserving peace.

The capability theme meets ODA criteria which supports capacity and capability building in the UK and overseas. In accordance with that criteria, the University will use it to build on the strengths of the HEI and our values outlined in section 1.

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

There are two priorities for year 2. The first relates to the continuation of building capability within existing staff across different disciplines to undertake high quality development-related research, which will include strengthening existing, and building new, relations with universities and civil society organisations in developing countries.

The second priority is to support a new project on migration. The specific detail of the project will emerge over the course of the previous year in line with plans for a new research grouping on this theme which are in process.

Should funding be reduced, the University will scale down both capability resource and project funding accordingly, but will proceed with both elements. Project leads may apply for internal QR funds to supplement some or all of the shortfall.

Should the funding be increased, money will be used to enhance the project plans further, particularly to increase its impact.

These activities meet the following ODA criteria:

The capability theme meets ODA criteria which supports capacity and capability building in the UK and overseas. In accordance with that criteria, the University will use it to build on the strengths of the HEI and our values outlined in section 1.

The migration theme aligns with the **Human Rights, Good Governance and Social Justice** priority, specifically to 'understand and respond effectively to forced displacement and multiple refugee crises.

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

There are two priorities for year 3. The first relates to the continuation of building capability within existing staff across different disciplines to undertake high quality development-related research, which will include strengthening existing, and building new, relations with universities and civil society organisations in developing countries.

The second priority is to support a new project on global health. The specific detail of the project will emerge from the work of current colleagues whose work is primarily located in the developed world, but with interest in its application to developing countries.

Should funding be reduced, the University will scale down both capability resource and project funding accordingly, but will proceed with both elements. Project leads may apply for internal QR funds to supplement some or all of the shortfall.

Should the funding be increased, money will be used to enhance the project plans further, particularly to increase its impact.

These activities meet the following ODA criteria:

The capability theme meets ODA criteria which supports capacity and capability building in the UK and overseas. In accordance with that criteria, the University will use it to build on the strengths of the HEI and our values outlined in section 1.

The global health theme aligns with the **Equitable Access to Sustainable Development** priority, specifically to support 'sustainable health and well-being'

