

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

University of the Arts London (UAL) is the UK's most significant contributor to the creative industries. It is an international university with a diverse community of staff and students from over 110 countries, located in one of the world's global cities and leading creative clusters. In REF2014, UAL made the largest single submission to Unit of Assessment 34 (Art and Design: History, Practice and Theory). 83% of UAL's outputs and 100% of its impact were judged to be world leading or internationally excellent. The impact case studies evidenced research that involved 26 countries outside the UK, including developing countries in Africa (Botswana, Nigeria, Sierra Leone); Asia (Azerbaijan, China, Jordan); Europe (Bosnia Herzegovina); and South America (Brazil, Peru).

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

The reach and importance of UAL's research is indicated by being the largest recipient of GCRF QR amongst specialist art and design institutions.

UAL's ongoing engagement with developing countries is embedded in the intersections between its key institutional strategies. UAL's ambitions and obligations are as a global university in its field, 'promoting arts, design, fashion and communication as forms of productive knowledge that contribute positively to society and support scientific and cultural development'. To these ends, it has developed cross-University research challenges that address emerging social issues and is increasing the number and range of its research collaborations, both with other disciplines and partners across the world.

UAL's research challenges are as follows:

1. Living with Environmental Change: through creative practice increasing understanding of environmental change, communicating the issues and designing for new business models, social innovations and sustainable living. Using design to reduce waste and to change producer and consumer behaviours.
2. Lifelong Health and Wellbeing: designing for people's lifelong economic, social and health impact, in order to maximize societal gains and minimize issues of dependency, isolation, and inequality.
3. Digital Futures: exploring through practice how technology affects lives, changes the way society interacts and impacts on communities, cultural production, future society, and economic growth.
4. Community Resilience: using art and design to support communities in understanding how to develop innovative and sustainable solutions to the issues they face, through co-design, co-creation, socially responsive practices and social entrepreneurship.

These themes are fully aligned with the UK Strategy for the GCRF. 'Living with Environmental Change' and 'Lifelong Health and Wellbeing' fit with the 'Equitable access to sustainable development' area. 'Community Resilience' is nestled within 'Sustainable economies and societies'. 'Digital Futures' cuts across all three GCRF areas and can play a role in the 'Human rights, good governance and social justice' area. The natural fit of UAL's research with ODA goals is such that its existing strategies and approaches can slot into GCRF's emerging priorities.

UAL's engagement with developing countries under its strategic themes leverages its position as a leader in art and design research and practice, and its location in the global heart of the creative industries. It nurtures long-term and complementary relationships with partners who can gain most from UAL's engagement. UAL's approach is to focus on specific cities rather than countries in general. This reflects UAL's knowledge and heritage as an urban institution and helps ensure that benefits are more likely to be maximised widely and through diverse communities. The cities that UAL prioritises are those with current or emerging global outreach and creative practices. As one of the

The model for UAL's engagement with emerging cities is Hong Kong. UAL has an established record of partnership activity involving collaborations and projects, working with educational institutions, and government and cultural organisations. Not every aspect of this model may be used in each instance but elements can be adapted and re-purposed depending on the local circumstances.

UAL's priority developing countries (and target cities) with current or emerging global outreach and creative practices that align with UAL's experience and expertise are:

Brazil (São Paulo and Rio de Janeiro);
India (Delhi, Mumbai and Hyderabad);
Mexico (Mexico City);
Kenya (Nairobi).

Existing projects illustrate how the themes promote the economic development and welfare of developing countries through research excellence. These are reflected in the proposed QR GCRF projects in Annex A2.

1. Links with the Bienal de São Paulo through the UAL research centres Afterall (an Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisation) and Transnational Art, Identity and Nation (TrAIN). Bienal de São Paulo is a major arts initiative in South America with artistic, educational and social initiatives to develop an independent cultural ecosystem. The links have the basis of equitable and nationally important partnerships between the UK and Brazil which were highlighted in a REF impact case study. This is linked to the activity described in Annex A2 (A2.1).
2. A network of UAL researchers and industry professionals on post-industrial design (computer gaming, robotics and wearable technology) on the African continent with a focus on centres of design in Nairobi, Dakar, Accra, and Cape Town. This aims to understand emerging categories of design production across African regions. This is linked to activities described in Annex A2 (A2.3, A2.6).
3. An exhibition and related research networking and dissemination events on the work of Stanley Kubrick in Mexico City. The Kubrick Archive is based at UAL, recognising that he spent more than half his life and most of directorial career in the UK. The initiative provided a platform for academic engagement and making available material and expertise on the topic that is otherwise inaccessible. The exhibition attracted 100,000 visitors and pump-primed the groundwork for future collaborations with local practice-based researchers. This is linked to the activity described in Annex A2 (A2.7).
4. A collaboration with the National Institute of Design (India) on developing and scaling-up criminal justice education programmes using design thinking and practice. The model is to enable inmates to understand different approaches to self-employment and entrepreneurship. This illustrates UAL's links to India as articulated further in Annex A2 (A2.2, A2.4, A2.5).

The projects described above demonstrate that UAL's approach is grounded in capacity and capability building on an equitable and sustainable basis. The nature of art and

design means that its research is intrinsically interdisciplinary and collaborative with social and economic impacts beyond the immediate academic area.

Funding to support research activities in the priority developing countries is a mixture of QR funding and project specific awards from funders such as the Research Councils and the Leverhulme Trust. Where funding does not support the full economic cost of a project, UAL uses strategic resources to cover the difference.

The institutional and strategic underpinnings enable UAL's engagement with developing countries. These are enhanced by existing personal links between researchers and new one which are nurtured through supported collaborations. However, as activities are dependent on face-to-face collaboration, immigration restrictions and administrative delays can adversely effect relationship building. Ease of movement between countries for the purposes of research should be supported as much as possible.

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

Maximum 500 words

UAL is seeking to make its engagement with developing countries more tightly focused. Historically, links have been driven by individual academic interests or by student recruitment concerns. QR GCRF provides a means to bolster UAL's existing strategic move towards a more institution-wide approach that involves both research and learning. This enables partners in developing countries to benefit from a deep and reciprocal relationship with UAL that is more attuned to their needs and opportunities. QR GCRF activities can be enhanced by being part of a wider package of engagement while remaining a distinct but complementary element.

The expectation is that outcomes should align with the research challenges and inform their future development.

Impact will be achieved primarily through the collaboration with strategic partners in joint research projects. This will enable impact to be tightly focused and measurable against pre-determined criteria.

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

UAL has a robust mechanism for the monitoring and evaluation of research activity. The University Research Committee (URC) has oversight on behalf of Academic Board to develop and monitor strategies and policies. The central Research Management and Administration (RMA) department oversees the implementation of URC decisions and provides reports for the committee. RMA is responsible for developing funding bids and post-award support and so is best placed to liaise with UAL's Colleges and Research Centres to ensure that ODA and GCRF activity is compliant with expectations and impacts are maximised.

Colleges and Research Centres report annually to URC, including on their international engagement and activities in alignment with the Research Strategy.

UAL is in the final stages of implementing a current research information system (CRIS), the first for a specialist art and design institution. This major investment will enhance the monitoring and recording of activities and help identify new and emerging collaborations aligned with strategic goals. The recording of impact and its association with other activities in particular will be enhanced and help inform future planning.

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 focus is on priority countries described above and on activities that can lead to further engagements and interventions based on the research challenges (highlighted in brackets on Annex A2). Consequently, QR GCRF is targeted on pump-priming nascent activities or following-up recently completed projects that can be developed further into more ambitious funding proposals.

Maximum value is achieved by including a QR GCRF stream within a larger portfolio of UAL-funded activities, such as those involving Mexico. By combining research in a package that includes UG and PGT mobility and curriculum development, the scale of engagement is enhanced and can achieve greater traction within the partner country. Value is also attained through the collaborative nature of art and design which can

facilitate partnerships with other UK institutions. This has been highlighted in the collaboration with UCL on 'Inclusive Inclusivity' but other projects have the potential to follow the same route.

Non-priority countries are included to increase the scale of what can be achieved with a priority partner or when a project may need to be developed elsewhere before application to a preferred partner.

Please note that for the purposes of clarity, the indicative figure has been rounded up by £99 as dividing it between the eight projects would have produced an arbitrarily precise amount. The small shortfall will be made up from UAL resources.

UAL has a long-term commitment to the activities and countries described. It should be noted that several of them have already been supported by funding outside of GCRF QR. UAL has a track record in each location and GCRF QR would enhance and accelerate these collaborations. A reduced GCRF QR may not allow such intensive collaborations in the short-term but the initiatives will proceed in some form.

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

UAL's commitment to research engagement with the countries listed above are integrated into its International Strategy. This will continue regardless of changes to the levels of QR GCRF funding. The difference will be in the nature of the engagement. A rise in QR GCRF will enable a step change in activities rather than a major realignment. There would be an opportunity to invest further in initiatives and potentially speed up their intensity and reach. ODA activities would not be curtailed by a reduction in QR GCRF but capacity and intensity would be affected. UAL's indicative QR GCRF of £159,901 is approximately a third of that made available to specialist arts institutions. A reduction in QR GCRF for UAL and others would reduce the impact of creative practitioners in developing innovative solutions to ODA goals and hamper the development of scalable engagement.

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

UAL's strategies are approved to run until 2022. This is to allow for internal transformations, in particular the development of new campuses in Stratford, and

Elephant and Castle. Consequently, no major changes in priorities are expected in the long-term relationships that UAL is developing with partner countries. The main activities in 2019-20 and 2020-21 will be a scaling up of engagement with Mexico City and investigations into potential links with Malaysia, Indonesia and Vietnam. The latter are part of the International Strategy and will include research activities.

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

Please see response to Q.7 above.