



# GCRF UKRI-JST-DOST research collaborations in south east Asia

<b>Opportunity status:</b>	Open
<b>Funders:</b>	UK Research and Innovation
<b>Co-funders:</b>	Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST), Department of Science and Technology of the Philippines (DOST)
<b>Funding type:</b>	Grant
<b>Total fund:</b>	£500,000
<b>Maximum award:</b>	£100,000
<b>Publication date:</b>	27 November 2020
<b>Opening date:</b>	27 November 2020
<b>Closing date:</b>	10 February 2021 16:00 UK time

*Last updated: 25 January 2021*

[Start application](#)

Apply for funding to connect current and recently funded projects focused on sustainable development in south east Asia.

Your research must have been funded by UKRI, Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST), or the Department of Science and Technology of the Philippines (DOST).

Proposals must focus on:

- networking and partnership
- building outreach and dissemination
- demonstration and pilot activities
- working towards the Sustainable Development Goals.

This is the first phase of the 'Science, Technology and Action' Nexus for Development (STAND). Up to five projects will be funded for up to 12 months.

[Close all](#)

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## Who can apply

Proposals should:

- link at least one project funded by UKRI and one project funded by JST and include partners in south east Asia
- be led by at least one project leader based in a UK research organisation (RO) eligible to receive funding from UKRI and one project leader based in a Japanese RO eligible to receive funding from JST
- also include partners from countries in south east Asia.

Where relevant, proposals may also include a project leader based in the Philippines and eligible to receive funding from DOST.

Proposals should connect currently or recently (within the last three years) active projects focused on south east Asia funded under the following schemes:

- Newton Fund (UKRI)
- Global Challenges Research Fund: GCRF (UKRI)
- Science and Technology Research Partnership for Sustainable Development: SATREPS (JST)
- e-ASIA Joint Research Program: e-ASIA JRP (JST)
- Accelerating Social Implementation for SDGs achievement: aXis (JST)
- For the Philippines, projects currently funded in any of the funding schemes of DOST, UKRI and/or JST.

For the purposes of this call the eligible countries of south east Asia are: Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam.

UK-based principal investigators or co-investigators on UKRI-funded Newton Fund or GCRF projects active within the last three years are eligible to apply as the UK project leader for this call. Projects supported by GCRF QR funding are not eligible.

Japan-based project leaders for this call should have been a principal or co-investigator for a SATREPS, e-ASIA or aXis project active within the last three years.

Projects are expected to commence in April/May 2021 and be implemented for one year.

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## What we're looking for

It is expected that up to five individual projects will be funded for up to 12 months, each with costs up to £100,000 from UKRI, ¥5,000,000 from JST. Additionally, a maximum of PhP5,000,000 per project is available from DOST to support involvement of researchers in the Philippines for up to three of the projects.

The intention of this call is to encourage projects to come together to create synergies, develop new collaborations and increase the impact of outputs from previous funding.

Each project is expected to undertake the following kind of activities:

- network building among project partners to exchange and deepen their knowledge and activities
- small scale demonstration, translation or impact activities with the involvement of new stakeholders (small to medium size)
- pilot research activities designed to build on previous findings and support new collaborations
- multi-stakeholder events (in person or virtual) focusing on impact, outreach and dissemination of existing research outputs.

The funders recommend that projects consider the current context of the COVID-19 pandemic and the impact this has on global mobility and develop plans and contingencies accordingly.

## Eligible costs

- costs incurred by UK RO's will be covered by UKRI at 80% full economic cost (fEC)
- costs incurred by partners based in countries on the OECD DAC list of ODA recipients (DAC list), aside from the Philippines, will be covered by UKRI at 100% fEC. Third sector organisations (for example, NGOs, charities and other non-profit civil society organisations) are eligible to receive a contribution to their costs incurred on the project, including a contribution to staff time
- any non-staff costs must be reasonable; indirect costs and overheads are not allowed
- the total costs associated with all third-sector project partners must not exceed 20% of the total award (100% fEC).

Capital or infrastructure expenditure is not an eligible cost for this call. Individual items of equipment above £10,000 are not eligible to be funded by UKRI for this call.

Fees and/or stipends associated with Masters and PhD studentships are not eligible under this call. Government bodies are not eligible for funding.

The following costs may not be included as direct costs for this call and therefore must be included in the requested indirect costs:

- charges for office or laboratory space
- electricity, heating, lighting
- telephone and basic communication costs (unless there is need for significant project based activities such as phone interviews)
- routine photocopying and printing (large print runs such as publications or workshop papers may be charged to the grant)
- standard office computing, including desktop and laptop computers and associated software. Individual items of computing equipment may not be charged to a grant (high performance computing facilities which are linked to a specific research task may in some circumstances be charged to the grant – for further clarification please check with UKRI)
- office support staff (for example, finance staff, basic secretarial support, computing support staff). Project managers can be claimed as a direct cost on the grant.

## Facilities

Given the time restrictions on spend under calls supported by the GCRF, we are unable to accept NERC shiptime or aircraft requests as part of this call. All other research council services and facilities must be fully costed within the limits of the proposal, and agreement that they can be undertaken within the timeframe of the spend must be provided by the facility.

Further information on costs eligible to be claimed from JST and DOST can be found under the parallel call guidance for the call Science, Technology and Action' Nexus for Development (STAND).

## ODA compliance

The GCRF forms part of the UK's Official Development Assistance (ODA) commitment, which is monitored by the [Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development \(OECD\)](#).

ODA-funded activity focuses on outcomes that promote the long-term sustainable growth of countries on the OECD Development Assistance Committee [DAC list \(PDF, 19KB\)](#). Funding within this call will therefore be awarded in a manner that fits with [official ODA guidelines](#).

## Equitable partnerships

Partnerships are a key pillar of the GCRF strategy.

UKRI developed the following statement of expectation for research partnerships in consultation with researchers from Africa:

Partnerships should:

- be transparent and based on mutual respect
- aim to have clearly articulated equitable distribution of resources, responsibilities, efforts and benefits
- recognise different inputs, different interests and different desired outcomes and should ensure the ethical sharing and use of data which is responsive to the identified needs of society.

Further guidance on how to develop and maintain equitable partnerships is available in the Swiss Commission for Research Partnerships with Developing Countries (KFPE) Guide for transboundary research partnerships '11 principals and 7 questions'.

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## How to apply

Applications to UKRI should be submitted through the [Joint Electronic Submission system \(Je-S\)](#) by 10 February 2021, 16:00 (GMT).

Applications should be submitted to JST through the [Cross-Ministerial R&D Management System \(e-Rad\)](#) by 10 February 2021, 12:00 (JST).

If applicable, a counterpart application should be submitted through the [DOST Project Management Information system \(DPMIS\)](#) application system by 10 February 2021, 16:00 (PST).

It will not be possible to apply to the call after the time mentioned above. Proposals submitted after the deadline will not be considered. UK applicants must ensure they leave enough time for their proposal to pass through their organisation's Je-S submission route before this date.

When submitting your application through Je-S, please follow these steps:

1. log into your Je-S account
2. select council: EPSRC
3. document type: Standard proposal
4. scheme: UKRI
5. call: GCRF UKRI-JST-DOST call for development research collaborations (STAND).

Proposals submitted to any other call route through Je-S will not be accepted.

When submitting your application through e-Rad, please follow the instruction described in the 'Science, Technology and Action' Nexus for Development (STAND) call for proposals.

Philippine applicants applying through the DPMIS must list the UK/Japanese research collaborators using the DPMIS Proposal Template. The value of UKRI/JST funding contributions should also be included in the DOST application and submitted as part of the proposal's line-item budget as UKRI/JST counterpart.

## Documents required for UKRI funding

As a summary, your application should include the following documents.

Please note that these page lengths are the requirements for this call, where Je-S gives a specific length which differs from this, please adhere to the limits given in this table.

<b>Document</b>	<b>Maximum page length</b>	<b>Je-S attachment type</b>
Je-S proposal form	N/A	N/A
Case for support	Five pages	Case for support
Justification of resources	Two pages	Justification of resources
Gender equality statement		
ODA compliance statement	One page	Non-UK component
CVs for project leaders	Two pages per CV, including publications	CV
Data management plan	Three pages	Data management plan

No additional attachments are permitted.

As a minimum, font size 11 in Arial must be used for the entire case for support and CVs.

Please note that on submission all non PDF documents are converted to PDF.

The use of non-standard fonts may result in errors or font conversion, which could affect the overall length of the document. Additionally where non-standard fonts are present, and even if the converted PDF document may look unaffected in the Je-S system, when it is imported into the research councils grants system some information may be removed.

We therefore recommend that where a document contains any non-standard fonts (scientific notation, diagrams), the document should be uploaded as a PDF file.

Applications not complying with the call requirements may be rejected.

## Document summaries

Je-S proposal form – please note that typing into a text box is not detectable by the system and is regarded as system inactivity. Please remember to save text regularly.

The same project title should be used when applying to each funder to ensure that it is clear which applications are linked.

Project leaders from Japan and the Philippines should be included on the Je-S form as co-investigators with the salary rate as zero. Costs for these investigators should be included on applications to the relevant funders (JST or DOST). These investigators will require an active Je-S account before they can be added to the proposal form. Please allow plenty of time to complete this step before the closing date. Find out more about [setting up a Je-S account](#).

Details of the previous UKRI-funded GCRF or Newton Fund project that this proposal is based on should be included in the 'other support' section of the Je-S proposal form, including the UKRI grant reference number.

## Entering overseas costs

- all overseas costs to be claimed from UKRI (eligible costs to enable the participation of partners from countries in south east Asia on the DAC list of recipients, aside from the Philippines) must be entered into the standard proposal document as other directly incurred costs and flagged as exceptions
- non-UK co-investigators must enter their time allocation under 'directly allocated' but should enter the salary rate as zero. All costs associated with non-UK partners that are to be claimed from UKRI – whether salary, fieldwork, equipment, indirect costs or travel and subsistence – will need to be entered under 'other directly incurred costs' in the resources section of the form and the 'exceptions' box will need to be ticked for each item
- all overseas costs to be paid by UKRI must be entered into the Other Directly Incurred costs using the following format: In the description box you should enter – 'Organisation: Country: Cost Category: Cost Description. The cost categories for this call are as follows:
  - staff
  - other directly incurred costs
  - indirect costs
  - travel and subsistence.

For example:

- University of Nairobi: Kenya: Staff: 1 x Network Manager
- University of Nairobi: Kenya: Travel and Subsistence: 4 x flights
- University of Nairobi: Kenya: Other Directly Incurred Costs: 5 x Workshops including catering and accommodation

## Research ethics

All GCRF projects must be underpinned by a strong research ethic based on mutual respect and understanding for different cultural, ethnic, social and economic beliefs and practices. Solutions to any development challenge(s) must be rooted in, and acceptable to, the institutions, communities and societies where they will operate.

Applicants should use the ethical information section to demonstrate to reviewers that they have fully considered any ethical issues concerning the material they intend to use, the nature and choice, current public perceptions and attitudes towards the subject matter or research area. Describing potential issues gives confidence to reviewers that the applicants have thought carefully about the project. If ethical approval is not considered necessary, a statement should still be included justifying this decision. Each section of the ethical information must be completed. Applicants must clearly state how any potential ethical and health and safety issues have been considered and will be addressed ensuring that all necessary ethical approval is in place before the project commences and all risks are minimised.

The provisions of the Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986 must be observed. All UKRI awards are made on the absolute condition that no work which is controlled by the Act will begin until the necessary licences have been obtained. All work supported by a UKRI award must comply with the principals described in the document [‘Responsibility in the use of animals in bioscience research: expectations of the major research council and charitable funding bodies’](#). When collaborating with other laboratories, or where animal facilities are provided by third parties, researchers and the local ethics committee in the UK should satisfy themselves that welfare standards are consistent with the principals of UK legislation. Research involving the use of genetic resources must be carried out in accordance with the requirements set out in the Nagoya Protocol. Any research undertaken outside the UK must have both UK and respective country ethical approvals.

Investigators proposing the use of animals should provide an additional letter including the following information:

- a signed statement from both UK and partner country Project Leaders that:
  - they will adhere to all relevant national and local regulatory systems in the UK and partner countries.
  - they will follow the guidelines laid out in the document [‘Responsibility in the use of animals in bioscience research’](#) and ensure that work is carried out to a minimum of UK standards
  - before initiation of the proposed research work, appropriate approvals from Institutional or central animal ethics committees will be obtained for experimental protocols to be adopted in their projects. Successful proposals may be expected to provide copies of these permissions before funding is released.
- Details on where the animal research will take place (UK or overseas) and through which funder the resources are being sought. Applicants should include

confirmation that animal welfare standards at these organisations meet the requirements outlined above.

If applicable, applicants should also submit the MRC 'use of animals overseas' form(s) – please see section 4.4.6 of the standard MRC guidance for applicants and the use of animals overseas section of the National Centre for the Replacement, Refinement & Reduction of Animals in Research (NC3Rs) website.

## **Application summaries**

As part of the government's commitment to ODA transparency and in line with ODA reporting requirements, UKRI is responsible for publishing information about UKRI ODA grants including project titles and summaries via the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI) registry and via FCDO's national statistics.

The purpose of publishing information via the IATI registry is to make information about ODA easily accessible to governments, stakeholders and other relevant groups in beneficiary countries. All UKRI funded projects from this programme will be published in this way.

In addition the summary and impact summary sections will be made available on the Gateway to Research database and research council websites. Please therefore write your project summary and impact summary in such a way that they are meaningful and accessible to non-specialist audiences, following publication.

It is expected that the summaries are written in plain English and avoid the use of jargon and acronyms and avoid including confidential information.

Please also make clear in your summary how your project is ODA compliant, for example by identifying the development challenge(s) being addressed, the aims of the project and the beneficiary countries.

## **Case for support**

The same case for support should be submitted to each funder. The case for support should be a maximum of five sides of A4 and comprise the following sections:

### **Vision and objectives**

The overall vision and objectives of the project, setting out the proposal's relevance to the call and contribution to SDGs.

This should include a brief overview of the previously funded projects (including any key outcomes) and how this project will enable new perspectives and collaborations between these projects. You should describe the major sustainable development challenge(s) being addressed, the expected outcomes of the project and how it will build on and add value to the previously funded projects.

### **Capability of the team**

Plans for the overall management of the project including how funds will be used to achieve the programme's objectives. Details of the project leaders, including their proposed contribution to the programme and evidence they have the necessary diverse set of skills to deliver the vision and objectives.

## **Partnerships and collaboration**

The strategy to enhance and build meaningful and lasting partnerships between the different projects and research groups involved and with other partners (business, third sector organisations, governments). This should include how the programme will facilitate and promote collaborative and cross-disciplinary ways of working and assemble the disciplinary expertise necessary to tackle the development challenge/s in question.

Part of the capacity and capability growth should be enabling groups and individuals to respond to future funding opportunities.

Each proposal should describe the history of the partnerships and collaboration. If an agreement has already been signed with the counterpart institution, it is better to give details of the agreement and current contact and interaction among the institutions.

## **Programme of activities**

An outline of the planned activities, who the key stakeholders will be, and what outcomes might be generated from them.

Projects should also be aiming to set up a legacy of impact, for example, by working with non-academic stakeholders (practitioners, industry, governments etc.), and this section should detail how they will be engaged. This section should include how the planned activities will follow on from, build on and enhance the impact of the previously funded projects.

You must also detail your safeguarding policy in this section. UKRI condemns all forms of harm and abuse, including bullying and harassment.

We take a zero-tolerance approach to harm and abuse to any individual employed through or associated with our programmes in all contexts; whether in humanitarian or fragile and conflict-affected settings, in other field contexts, or within the international or UK research and development community which we fund.

We expect organisations to promote the highest standards in organisational culture and have in place the systems and procedures required to prevent and tackle all incidents of harm and abuse. Applications should detail how they will identify and manage safeguarding risks within their projects.

## **Justification of resources**

The same justification of resources should be submitted to each funder.

A breakdown of all resources requested (directly incurred, directly allocated and exceptions, including principal investigators/project leaders time) from all funders should be provided along with an explanation of why these resources are appropriate for the activities proposed. This should not be simply a list of the resources required.

For items that would ordinarily be found in a department, for example non-specialist computers, a justification must be included both for why they are required for the project and why they cannot be provided from the research organisation's own resources (including funding from indirect costs from grants).

A clear justification must be provided for the amount of indirect costs requested from UKRI for non-UK organisations and a breakdown given for how it will be spent.

## **Non UK component – ODA compliance statement**

The ODA compliance statement should be a maximum of one page and explicitly demonstrate how the proposal meets key ODA requirements. It must answer the following four questions.

Please note the requirement to answer these questions does not supersede the need to discuss impact within your case for support.

Where necessary please ensure that you request appropriately justified resources to support these activities.

1. Which country or countries on the OECD DAC list of ODA recipients (DAC list) will directly benefit from this proposal and are these countries likely to continue to be eligible to receive ODA for the duration of the research? Please refer to the DAC list for information about countries that will be considered for graduation at the next review.
2. How is your proposal directly and primarily relevant to the development challenges of these countries? Please provide evidence of the development need and articulate how the proposed activity is appropriate to address this need.
3. How do you expect that the outcome of your proposed activities will promote the economic development and welfare of a country or countries on the DAC list?
4. What approach(es) will you use to deliver development impact within the lifetime of the project and in the longer-term? Please consider the potential outcomes, the key beneficiary and stakeholder groups in the DAC list country/ countries and how they will be engaged to ensure opportunities for them to benefit and to enable development impact to be achieved.

## **Gender equality statement**

Applicants are required to consider the impact their project will have on gender. Gender equality is not the same as gender balance, although it does include gender balance it is mainly concerned with the impacts of the proposed project.

This should be about the project specifically – the outputs and outcomes; the make-up of the project team; participants, stakeholders and beneficiaries of the project; and the

processes followed throughout the research programme. It should not be a re-statement of your Institution's policy, you may refer to the policy, but should show how the policy will be implemented in terms of the project.

The gender statement must address the below criteria, with an understanding that, depending on the nature of the research and innovation, not all questions will be applicable. If a question is not applicable, you will need to articulate the reasons why.

- have measures been put in place to ensure equal and meaningful opportunities for people of different genders to be involved throughout the project? This includes the development of the project, the participants of the research and innovation, and the beneficiaries of the research and innovation
- the expected impact of the project (benefits and losses) on people of different genders, both throughout the project and beyond
- the impact on the relations between people of different genders and people of the same gender. For example, changing roles and responsibilities in households, society, economy, politics, power, etc.
- how will any risks and unintended negative consequences on gender equality be avoided or mitigated against, and monitored?
- are there any relevant outcomes and outputs being measured, with data disaggregated by age and gender (where disclosed)?

Please see supporting documents within the Additional info section for more guidance for applicants on gender equality statements.

## CV

CVs (two pages per applicant, including publications) should be provided for the project leaders (Principal Investigator and Co-Investigators) from all countries. These should be provided to all funders.

## Data management plan

UKRI recognises that plans for storing and sharing data will vary according to the type of data collected. Data sharing should be driven by scientific benefit and should also be cost effective. Data should be shared using established standards and existing resources where this is possible. The data management template provided in the supporting documents should be used.

Applicants should include details of:

- data areas and data types – the volume, type and content of data that will be generated
- standards and metadata – the standards and methodologies that will be adopted for data collection and management and why these have been selected
- secondary use – further intended and/or foreseeable research uses for the completed dataset(s)

- methods for data sharing – planned mechanisms for making these data available, for example through deposition in existing public databases or on request, including access mechanisms where appropriate
- proprietary data – any restrictions on data sharing due to the need to protect proprietary or patentable data
- timeframes – timescales for public release of data
- relevant institutional, departmental or study policies on data sharing and data security.

## **In addition to the Je-S submission**

The Project Leader from the Japanese team must register their application information, legal compliance checklist and compliance agreement on the [Cross Ministerial R&D Management System \(e-Rad\) platform](#).

An e-Rad guide for applicants (in Japanese) is available on “Application Form” below.

[Further application instructions and guidance \(available only in Japanese\)](#).

## **For Philippine applicants**

Proposals must be submitted in the [e-Proposal portal](#). All instructions for submission are available in this portal. Required supplementary files such as workplan, endorsement of the Head of the Agency, gender and development scoresheet, scientific basis/theoretical framework, among others shall form part of the submission.

Proposals and supplementary files must be written in English.

Proposals will be assessed as one application and applicants should therefore ensure that documents provided to different funders as part of linked applications do not contradict each other.

## **How we use your information**

UKRI will use the information that you provide for the purposes of processing your application, making any awards, monitoring and review of any grants. We may share all application data with the Japan Science and Technology Agency and Department of Science and Technology of the Philippines (DOST) in order to assist with management of the application process. We will share anonymised aggregated information with the UK Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS).

Organisation details, where collected, are used for monitoring and evaluation and statistical purposes. Gender information and country of origin, where collected, is used solely for statistical purposes. If we need to contact you, we will do so using the contact details you have provided.

Further information on the [UKRI data protection policy](#) and [UKRI privacy notice](#).

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## How we will assess your application

Once applications have been internally assessed by the funders for eligibility, applications will be assessed by a specially convened panel of experts nominated by UKRI, JST, and DOST.

The panel will be asked to assess the proposals against the assessment criteria below. The panel will make formal recommendations to the funders. The funders may wish to apply some conditions on grants, and there may be subsequent negotiations on the details of the support offered.

### Assessment criteria

#### 1. Relevance and fit to call:

- the project's alignment to Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the theme of 'sustainable development in south east Asia'
- identification of a relevant development challenge
- the identification of appropriate previously funded projects to collaborate

#### 2. Programme of activities, organisation and management:

- how appropriate are the planned activities and how likely are they to deliver the aims of the call
- the clarity of objectives and realistic plans to deliver these, including plans for monitoring, evaluation and legacy
- competence and complementarity of the participants within the project
- the extent to which the project fully justifies its costs and can demonstrate good value for money
- the extent to which the project leaders have the appropriate skills/experience/environment

#### 3. Capacity building, partnerships and inclusion:

- the degree and quality of co-design and equitable partnership across the partners
- the potential for research and innovation capacity building
- the extent to which the project will forge new links and dialogues
- appropriate mechanisms for promoting gender equality and inclusion in the project

#### 4. Likelihood of impact:

- appropriate engagement with policy/practice/user stakeholders
- the sustainability of the project and potential to deliver impact and/or scalable solutions at the local, national and/or international level beyond the initial 12 months

## Guidance on journal-based metrics

As part of our commitment to support the recommendations and principals set out by the [San Francisco Declaration on Research Assessment \(DORA\)](#), UKRI reviewers and panel members are advised not to use journal-based metrics, such as journal impact factors, as a surrogate measure of the quality of individual research articles, to assess an investigator's contributions, or to make funding decisions.

The content of a paper is more important than publication metrics, or the identity of the journal, in which it was published, especially for early-stage researchers. Reviewers and panel members are encouraged to consider the value and impact of all research outputs (including datasets, software, inventions, patents, preprints, other commercial activities, etc.) in addition to research publications. We advise our peer reviewers and panel members to consider a broad range of impact measures including qualitative indicators of research impact, such as influence on policy and practice.

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## Contact details

### For UKRI

- [gcrf@ukri.org](mailto:gcrf@ukri.org).
- Enquiries relating to technical aspects of the Je-S form should be addressed to:
  - Je-S helpdesk
  - Email: [jeshelp@je-s.ukri.org](mailto:jeshelp@je-s.ukri.org) Telephone: (+44) 01793 444164
  - Opening hours: 08:30 – 17:00 Monday to Thursday, 08:30 – 16:30 Friday UK time

### For JST

- [stand@jst.go.jp](mailto:stand@jst.go.jp)  
Mr. Hiroki Kabumoto, Mr. Hideaki Kodani  
Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST) Department of International Affairs  
Tel.: +81-3-5214-7375; Fax.: +81-3-5214-7379  
(Email is preferable if not urgent.)

### For DOST

- Grace F. Estillore, DOST-PCIEERD, [gfestillore@pcieerd.dost.gov.ph](mailto:gfestillore@pcieerd.dost.gov.ph)
- Charlene U. Basig, Office of the Assistant Secretary for International Cooperation, DOST, [cubasig@dost.gov.ph](mailto:cubasig@dost.gov.ph).

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## Additional info

UKRI's funding for this call has been allocated from the Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF), a £1.5 billion fund to support cutting-edge research which addresses the problems faced by developing countries. GCRF will address global challenges through disciplinary and interdisciplinary research and will strengthen capability for research and innovation within both the UK and developing countries, providing an agile response to emergencies where there is an urgent research need. GCRF forms part of the UK's Official Development Assistance (ODA) commitment and will be awarded in a manner that fits with ODA guidelines.

A mapping exercise, started in 2018 by Japan Science and Technology Agency (JST) and United Kingdom Research and Innovation (UKRI) to explore alignment of their respective programmes for addressing cross-cutting global challenges, highlighted several projects funded through the Science and Technology Research Partnership for Sustainable Development (SATREPS) and e-ASIA Joint Research Program (e-ASIA JRP), both run by JST, and the Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF) and Newton Fund, both run by UKRI.

South east Asia was selected as a core region of mutual interest for both JST and UKRI, suggesting ample opportunity for cooperation. One result of the mapping exercise was that the Philippines emerged as having the highest number of overlapping projects, and so the Department of Science and Technology of the Philippines (DOST) also joined the initiative.

In order to develop effective research partnerships that can deliver impact, a joint workshop on "Working together for sustainable coastal communities: a multi-funder approach to maximise development impact" was organised by DOST-PCIEERD, UKRI and JST in December 2019. As part of this workshop group discussion sessions were conducted to set out the characteristics, needs and mechanisms for cooperation.

Takeaway points from the discussions included that new cooperation would ideally be interdisciplinary and flexible to diverse stakeholder demands, and that conventional research partnerships were not fit for the task. It was suggested that mobility could be a practical first step in order to bring together a portfolio of different funding approaches and serve as a pilot to verify how further cooperation could be implemented.

The intention of this pilot call is to encourage projects to come together to create synergies, develop new collaborations and increase the impact of outputs from previous funding.

This initiative is in line with the "Decade of Global Sustainability Science Action" in order to enhance strategic collaboration and to accelerate the impact of science and science funding on the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that has been initiated by science funders and the research community in 2019.

## Supporting documents

- [GCRF ODA guidance \(PDF, 331KB\)](#)
  - Presentations from the UKRI-JST-DOST workshop on Working Together for Sustainable Coastal Communities, a Multi-Funder Approach to Maximise Development Impact:
    - [UKRI presentation \(PDF, 2.6MB\)](#)
    - [JST presentation \(PDF, 527KB\)](#)
    - [DOST presentation \(PDF, 13.2MB\)](#)
  - [UKRI-JST-DOST workshop outputs: Potential future programmes and activities \(PDF, 163KB\)](#)
  - [JST STAND list of eligible projects \(PDF, 76KB\)](#)
  - [UKRI STAND list of eligible projects \(PDF, 219KB\)](#)
  - [Equality impact assessment \(PDF, 195KB\)](#)
  - [UKRI gender equality statement guidance \(PDF, 539KB\)](#)
  - [UKRI gender equality and international development research and innovation \(PDF, 1.69MB\)](#)
  - [UKRI things to consider incorporating gender equality into international development research and innovation \(PDF, 221KB\)](#)
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## Timeline

- **27 November 2020**  
Opening date
- **10 February 2021 16:00 GMT**  
Closing date for Je-S
- **10 February 2021 12:00 JST**  
Closing date for e-Rad
- **10 February 2021 16:00 PST**  
Closing date for DPMIS
- **March 2021**  
Panel review

- **April or May 2021**  
Start of projects

## Related content

[OECD DAC List of ODA recipients \(PDF\)](#)

[Setting up a Je-S account](#)

[UN Sustainable Development Goals](#)

NOTE This is the first phase of our new website – let us know if you have [feedback](#) or would like to [help us test new developments](#).