# 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.<sup>1</sup>
  - 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.

#### Overall Development related research strategy and priority objectives

Cranfield is an exclusively postgraduate university in technology and management, recognised for delivering outstanding transformational research which meets the needs of business, governments and wider society. To ensure we unlock the full potential of our research and innovation capabilities Cranfield continues to recognise the importance of operating globally and the opportunities offered through working with developing countries to tackle their internal challenges, reflected as a cornerstone of our Corporate Plan and our Research Strategy.

Our International Strategy aims to extend our global reach and impact by:

 leveraging our distinctive interdisciplinary strengths to create wider international visibility, impact and influence of our work for the benefit of others;

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

- increasing the flow of education and research capital (people and projects) to and from Cranfield with our overseas counterparts; and
- consolidating and developing existing and new international education, research and business partnerships with strategic partners internationally.

The reputation and attractiveness of Cranfield expertise and its work to the international community can be best evidenced by our staff and student community, representing over 110 countries. We aim to strengthen capacity for research and innovation both within the UK and overseas countries, allowing the application of academic and technology research and true knowledge exchange to occur between UK and international researchers. To support this, the University has established Regional Expert Groups for international regions of interest (Europe and Russia, Middle East and North Africa, India, SE Asia and Australasia, West Africa, North America and Canada, China, and Central and South America), primarily focused on cultivating and maturing academic partnerships for student recruitment.

To ensure Cranfield research is focused on meeting the challenges of today and tomorrow, we have prioritised five cross-cutting discipline research areas where we need to continue to develop a critical academic mass of capability and expertise. One of these priorities is 'Transforming Developing Countries'

(https://www.cranfield.ac.uk/research/why-cranfield/emerging-research-interests) and emerged in support of our International Strategy and reflects our long history of working with developing countries. Our mission has a particular focus on low and middle-income countries as Cranfield has decades of expertise in empowering under-developed countries to utilise research to stimulate their economies, furthering sustainable development and improving the welfare of the host population. Supporting these countries is important to Cranfield as we recognise that this leads to:

- improved host economies that are sustainable and help drive national and global markets, spending power and competition
- enhanced welfare and quality of life of workers and the general public within each country
- enables countries to identify and deliver solutions to specific host challenges
- strengthened capacity for research and innovation both within the UK and developing countries
- informs and helps drive the knowledge base and the application of academic and technology research
- true knowledge exchange between UK and international researchers, academics, governments, industry and the public

Cranfield has a number of research partnerships with a variety of organisations such as universities (e,g. Manipal University (India), BUET (Bangladesh), University of Nairobi (Kenya), Universidade Federal di Rio Grade do Sul (Brazil), Tecnológico de Monterrey (Mexico)), research organisations (e.g. the National Institute of Advanced Studies (India), a number of the CGAIR (formerly the Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research) centres such as IRRI (International Rice Research Institute), CIAT (International Center for Tropical Agriculture) and CIP (International Potato Center)), and companies (e.g. Aadyah Aerospace Private Limited (India)). In addition, we are leading two GCRF Hub proposals that have been invited to full proposal stage; 'Reducing Global

Food Waste' centres on Latin America, SE Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa with regard to fruits and vegetables; and 'Sanitation and Hygiene Equity' focuses on Africa and Asia in delivering innovative solutions for wastewater and faecal sludge treatment in hygiene and sanitation services.

Cranfield's research activity with developing countries has been achieved through personally established international networks of industrial organisations, research centres and other agencies to collaboratively deliver projects. Examples include:

- A project investigating the hydro-social and environmental impacts of sugarcane expansion in Sub-Saharan Africa funded by the <u>Belmont Forum</u>, a consortium of the world's major funders of global environmental change research encouraging sustainability using international resources.
- Our work on the <u>Waterless Toilet</u>, funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation has recently been cited by the Financial Times as one of the 50 Ideas to Change the World, and was delivered through our 25 year pioneering capability in water and sanitation. Indeed, our expertise as a leading provider of progressive educational and research support for improving water services that benefit the quality of lives and livelihoods in the most impoverished parts of the world, was recognised by the Queen's Anniversary Prize for Higher Education in 2016.
- Our Environment and Agrifood research and education expertise in large-scale soil
  and environmental data for the sustainable use of the natural resources in the UK
  and worldwide, was also recognised in 2017 by the Queen's Anniversary Prize. It
  acknowledged a 50 year Cranfield history of enhancing natural capital and ensuring
  that future global food systems are more resilient through technological innovation
  and risk management.
- Cranfield hosts the World Soil Survey Archive and Catalogue, containing soil survey reports, maps, imagery and photographs for 352 territories worldwide, championing the collection and interpretation of overseas soils data; the application of this dataset equips farmers with improved soils knowledge to increase agricultural production through precision agriculture and control soil degradation.
- Our informatics expertise supports commodity market analysis, corporate sustainability and governance to aid organisational resilience and policy making (e.g. through our Doughty Centre for Corporate Responsibility), and via our <u>Bettany Centre</u> business support programmes, enables individuals to develop new businesses within these countries.
- Our Sanitation and Circular Economy research collaboration with the Universities
  of South Africa, Kwazulu-Natal (South Africa) and Sao Paulo (Brazil) through a
  prestigious Rutherford Fund Fellowship to support the delivery of water and
  sanitation technology development for DAC country applications and circular
  design strategies with academic and industrial partners.

Cranfield also has a broad range of joint research interests generated with developing countries through partnerships supported by external funding, evidenced by our grant proposals and funded projects to the Newton Fund, GCRF, RCUK, Royal Society, Royal Academy of Engineering, the British Council and Innovate UK in recent years. In collaboration with nations such as China, India, South East Asia, Africa, and South America, our research and innovation activity has been focused on:

- Agrifood: soil quality, crops (pest resistance, toxicity, waste and commodity crops such as sugar, palm oil, rice, potato, tea), biocontrol agents, nutrient management, aquaculture, food supply chains and storage.
- Water: waste and purification, sanitation and health, quality, resource recovery, contaminants, flooding, rainwater harvesting, and land contamination.
- Energy: renewables (offshore wind, geo-energy, solar power, wind-wave), biomass, integrated energy systems, and eco-friendly electricity.
- Air: quality management, solid fuel use, climate change and impact, monitoring, and duel energy car engines.
- Materials: bio-composites for building, high performance low carbon, renewables from bio-based composites, and green blades on wind turbines.
- Defence and Security: anti-IEDs, and anti-corruption.

This spectrum of activity and development of networks has been generated by a 'bottom up', individualised approach and whilst Cranfield continues to recognise the significance of this approach, it is important that our International Strategy and institutional objectives provide the strategic steer and focus required to co-ordinate and integrate activities so as to maximise value, develop critical mass and leverage, and generate sizable impact.

### Our strategy for all development related research activity over the next three years is therefore:

- 1. To continue to deliver 'bottom-up', individualised research and capacity-building programmes in collaboration with existing partners in developing countries but with priorities increasingly shaped by Cranfield's International Strategy;
- 2. To seek funding to support our work with developing counties from a range of funding sources, underpinned by QR GCRF funding;
- To initiate, develop and progress new programmes and partnerships to meet the
  priorities of the UK Strategy for the Global Challenges Research Fund as they
  relate to Cranfield's areas of research strength;
- 4. To develop targets to achieve impact in developing countries and metrics to monitor our success.

#### Key aspects of our three year strategic plan for QR GCRF

Cranfield's three year strategic plan for QR GCRF capitalises on our history, experience, expertise and partnerships and reflects our understanding of the challenges faced by DAC nations. Our strategic aim is to develop and deliver world-leading research that makes a tangible and sustainable impact upon the economic development and welfare of partner developing countries. Our objectives are as follows

- Activity will focus on initiating, developing and progressing research and innovation within the UK Strategy for the GCRF vision for change areas Equitable Access to Sustainable Development and Sustainable Economies and Societies (<a href="http://www.rcuk.ac.uk/funding/gcrf/challenges/">http://www.rcuk.ac.uk/funding/gcrf/challenges/</a>) primarily for China, India, South East Asia, Africa, and South America
- To expand the breadth and depth of our existing relationships and develop new links with developing countries partners in order to:
  - Generate a greater understanding of the challenges and context in which they operate and how research can help;
  - Help them leap frog through the research and translation process; and
  - Support capacity and capability building.
- To tackle the gap between research and translational impact within developing countries
- To support the economic growth of start-ups, SMEs and commercial organisations within developing countries through research, innovation and translational activities
- To consolidate and enhance existing Cranfield and UK understanding of the issues faced by developing countries to focus and shape research activity

#### The key activities by which we will realise our objectives

These objectives will be achieved through an internally managed funding scheme comprising four key mechanisms:

- 1. Funding for <u>travel and subsistence</u> for internal and overseas researchers (including post graduate students) both for short visits and placements, to:
  - develop shared understanding and interests through 1-2-1s, networking meetings and workshops with a variety of stakeholders;
  - identify potential projects;
  - prepare applications for other ODA and GCRF funding opportunities, research as well as local funding resources;
  - undertake short / small pieces of research;
  - write joint publications;
  - support the joint supervision of PhD students; and
  - support access to facilities and laboratories for research and field-based observations.
- 2. <u>Seed corn funding</u> for proof of concept work, feasibility studies and the generation of pilot data to de-risk larger potential research proposals.
- Impact and translational funding to support the generation of impact from completed or existing projects that are ODA and GCRF compliant, and new activities that support impact, the monitoring and evaluation of impact in conjunction with academic and research institutions, commercial organisations, government bodies and NGOs.
- 4. Capacity and capability funding to:
  - support the payment of bench fees for overseas PhD students to study at Cranfield in areas of common research interest between institutions;
  - provide access to facilities (either remotely or in person) for research purposes;

- support distance learning on a case by case basis;
- develop case studies of GCRF research and impact to facilitate wider learning, best practice and lessons learned; and
- facilitate stakeholder communities of practice to enhance both Cranfield and UK (e.g. DFID, aid welfare agencies) appreciation of DAC country challenges, support knowledge exchange between UK and overseas researchers, and generate a critical mass of relevant research. The Cranfield Regional Expert Groups will be included so as to capitalise on all potential intelligence and opportunities.

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

Our QR GCRF Strategy has been developed on the basis of wide consultation with senior staff with International responsibility and with academics who work closely with developing countries. Activity to be supported through QR GCRF will:

- underpin and build on deep and long research programmes already underway with core partners in developing countries
- address the gaps in programmes for which there is currently no, or limited amounts of funding
- support the development and consolidation of new and existing relationships through funded personnel flow and activity
- increase the visibility, impact and focus of our expertise and capabilities for the benefit of developing countries
- generate tangible research, innovation and impact outputs with a range of stakeholders in support of bottom up and strategic activities

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

Cranfield's QR GCRF objectives and key activities are focused to deliver against the Strategy's requirements to *promote challenge-led interdisciplinary research*, *strengthen capacity* for research, innovation and knowledge exchange between the UK and developing countries through partnership, and provide a means to *support urgent research* needs if required.

The research activity that will be supported through QR GCRF will align to the UK Strategy for the GCRF vision for change areas **Equitable Access to Sustainable Development** and **Sustainable Economies and Societies** 

(http://www.rcuk.ac.uk/funding/gcrf/challenges/), primarily in relation to China, India, South East Asia, Africa, and South America. This reflects our research strengths and capabilities in food systems; clean air, water and sanitation; affordable, reliable, sustainable energy; sustainable health and well-being, cities and communities; the circular design of production and consumption systems and process; resilience and action for environmental shocks and change; and supporting sustainable livelihoods for inclusive economic growth and innovation.

To ensure *best practice and maximum value for money*, activity funded by the QR GCRF will be managed in concert with other sources of funding and opportunities such that

ODA-funded projects and partnerships are exploited and further developed appropriately, follow-on funding is leveraged, and intelligence and knowledge is shared both internally and with the full range of UK academic and non-academic organisations.

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

Cranfield's Research Strategy is based on a vision is to be recognised for outstanding transformational research that meets the needs of business, government and wider society (https://www.cranfield.ac.uk/research/rio/research-strategy). We also aim to be renowned for our impact and influence - regionally, nationally and internationally, being recognised as 'closest to business'. Our high-quality research spans the technology readiness levels, from the generation of ideas through to their implementation. Our world-leading programmes of fundamental research underpin research that is close to business. Many of these programmes access research facilities that are on an industrial scale. This strategy carries through to our GCRF strategy. The strategy is centred on having 400 fully research active staff by increasing research income ('Pounds'), the quality of research students ('PhDs') and research outputs ('Papers'): summarised as '3P's'. The workstreams through which this will be achieved will also cover the GCRF strategy:

#### Research Income

**Funding Bids**: To support an ambitious programme of research funding bids directed at the GCRF and associated funding bodies in DAC countries.

**Strategic Research Partnerships**: To enhance and grow our strategic research partnerships with businesses, research institutes and universities in DAC countries, supported by RIO.

#### **Collaborative Research**

To enhance our intellectual critical mass and build track record by extending the reach and scope of our research collaborations selected universities in DAC countries

#### Quality of PhDs

**Quality of Research Support**: Cranfield will help its DAC partner universities maintain and improve the quality of supervision and support provided for doctoral students and early career researchers by supporting bilateral research communities.

**Innovative Programmes**: To identify, initiate and implement innovations in doctoral programmes, including professional doctorates, DBA and EngD, which meet the needs of Cranfield and our DAC partner universities and academic research profiles in order to attract and retain the best quality international PhD students and researchers.

**Quality of Publications:** To share methods to help staff to publish their research in high quality, open access journals.

**Research Profile:** To raise the profile and impact of joint Cranfield-DAC partner institution research by providing support to raise the level of citations, undertake outreach and develop news stories and case studies.

**Impact:** Inform and enable the capture and development of high quality examples of the impact of GCRF research on academic advances, society and the economy.

#### Likely key barriers and enablers to implementing our strategy.

The range of envisioned funding mechanisms is designed to overcome some of the identified barriers to achieving true impact through research in developing countries. Cranfield recognises that some of its **relationships with organisations** situated in developing countries are dispersed, high level in nature and focused through one lens (e.g. student recruitment). By providing money for travel and placements, workshops, case study development and communities of practice, knowledge exchange and intelligence can be shared easing the process of developing meaningful research relationships and worthwhile activities in an efficient and effective manner. Additionally, staff of developing country nationalities and/or with relevant language capabilities will be encouraged to participate as well as alumni invited to participate.

Another barrier is the availability of funding to **kick start research activity** and test out potential research ideas that could be high risk with the opportunity to develop larger projects; the provision of seed funding, access to facilities, payment or top up of bench fees and project work for PhD students should facilitate this.

A well-recognised issue is also the **traversing of the gap between research and its translation** within the developing countries; funding specifically focused on generating and monitoring impact from a range of ODA and GCRF compliant projects at different stages of maturity should help bridge this gap as well as a focus on commercial entities rather than academic institutions only. However where possible, the expectation is that we would work with the relevant academic institutions to support a 3-way learning process, particularly in enhancing knowledge regarding the de-risking of output delivery, and understanding the competition and the technology involved.

### The main developing countries, included in the Development Assistance Committee (DAC) list, which we intend to collaborate with.

Cranfield University has long standing interests and partnerships with organisations in China, India, South East Asia, Africa, and South America. These links reflect the nature of our research and capabilities and so we would continue to support work with these countries through the QR GCRF. However, the University would remain open to proposed activity with any other DAC countries in respect of our bottom up, individually-led interests and so we would not wish to be too prescriptive at the outset so as to encourage all levels of staff to participate in GCRF activities.

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

Cranfield's intended outcomes and impact from this strategy are closely linked to our outlined objectives and addressing the barriers we have articulated. In each of the DAC nations we have identified (China, India, South East Asia, Africa, and South America), although not limited to, we intend to deliver the following;

- True knowledge exchange with equitable capacity building through the
  development of meaningful and reciprocal sustainable partnerships (other formal
  and informal) with a range of organisations (academic, research institutes,
  commercial, government, NGOs, regulatory authorities), based on new and
  established Cranfield links
- Solutions that support a developing country's economic and welfare development through the generation of a variety of collaborative research activity
- Impact by translating existing and emerging research via the development of a greater appreciation of in-country barriers to impact, and devising fit for purpose methods of measuring and monitoring impact
- Enhanced economic welfare of developing countries through growing in-country local start-ups, SMEs and commercial organisations
- Value for money and shared best practice in meeting the challenges of GCRF by establishing communities of practice with a range of internal and external stakeholders

#### **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.

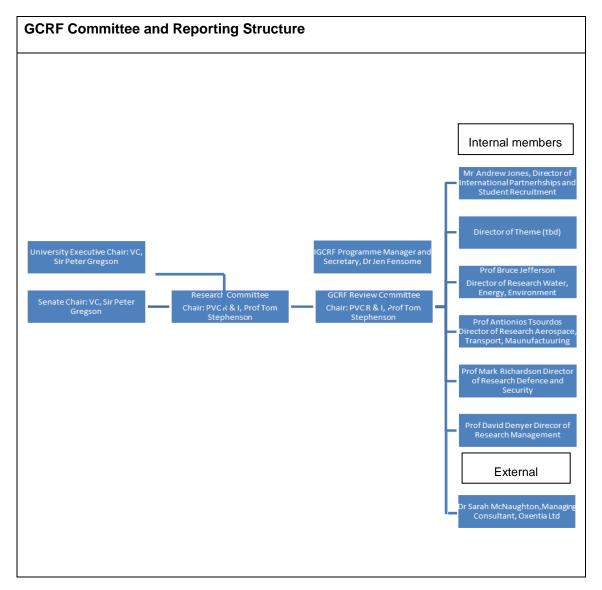
Cranfield University will monitor QR GCRF and ODA activity through a GCRF Committee (GCRFC) reporting to the University Executive, Research Committee of Senate and to HEFCE via the Research and Innovation Office.

The Committee will meet regularly to review funding applications and ensure the QR GCRF is operating effectively. The GCRF Review Committee will be responsible for:

- checking ODA compliance of applications and activity;
- peer reviewing applications submitted for QR GCRF and making recommendations for funding to the Research Committee (who make the final decision);
- reviewing progress on existing projects and providing advice on any remedial action required as necessary;
- assuring the distribution of spend and activity according to the priorities and allocations outlined in the funding plan;
- evaluating outcomes through the capture and review of final activity reports; and
- identifying lessons learned from funded activities to help shape the following year's strategy.

The Committee will be managed by the GCRF Programme Manager who is also the secretary. External representation on the Panel will be from Oxentia Ltd; because

members of staff from Oxentia work closely with individual researchers, the Oxentia representative will not be directly involved in the peer review scoring but simply there to provide advice to the panel on the wider international and industrial context. In addition, all Directors or Research, the Director of Theme have close international links with which they can draw on for advice if necessary and the Director of International Partnerships and Student Recruitment can advise on International Strategy activity. The GCRF Review Committee will also review progress on existing projects and provide advice on any remedial action required



#### **Method of Working**

- The Programme Manager alerts the academic community that applications for QR GCRF funding are welcomed (intranet; email alert)
- The Committee meets regularly to discuss new applications and existing projects (at least quarterly).

- A minimum of two Directors of Research plus the Chair are required for the Committee to be quorate.
- Reviews and assessments are based on criteria set out in the call for proposals (ODA compliance and expectations of activity type).
- The Committee's decision on applications may be: to approve, to approve subject to specified conditions, to reject (but allow resubmission of a revised application) or to reject (without allowing resubmission).
- Feedback to applicants will be limited to a statement of their success or otherwise unless there are specific conditions or revisions recommended or additional feedback that is considered to be useful.
- The GCRF Programme Manager is responsible for informing applicants of the outcome of each review and any identified feedback. The GCRF Programme Manager also collects information on project indicators and final activity reports.

#### **Conflict of interest**

Where a member of the Committee is conflicted by virtue of being an applicant (in some form) on a proposal to be considered, the GCRFC may choose to invite an alternative representative of that function to provide a fair review and the conflicted member will be asked to leave the room for discussion of their proposal.

#### Success criteria

Our measures of success are aligned to our QR GCRF strategic objectives;

- Growth of ODA and GCRF research activity within developing countries in all four activity types (Travel and Subsistence, Seed Corn Funding, Impact and Translation, Capacity and Capability Funding), both in terms of breadth and depth
- Development of new research partnerships and consolidation of existing links with organisations in developing countries that are sustainable, meaningful and reciprocal
- 3) Production of tangible research and impact collaborative outcomes
- 4) Increase in ODA and GCRF-associated research income as a consequence of QR GCRF activities

## Section B: Use of QR GCRF 2018-19 allocation and future QR GCRF priorities

- 4. Please complete the table in Annex A2 detailing the expected spending and activities for QR GCRF in the academic year 2018-19. Note that the total QR GCRF spending must equal the indicative allocation (available in Annex C), and all activities must be ODA-compliant for strategies to be assessed as ODA-compliant overall.
- 5. Please add here any explanatory notes on how you have completed the table in Annex A2 that will help inform assessment of ODA compliance.

The QR GCRF activities were derived from a wide consultation with senior staff with International responsibility and with academics who work closely with developing countries. They represent the categories of funding the staff felt would be the most useful, based on their experience with developing countries and delivering against the aims and objectives of our development institutional policies and research interests. The funding allocation per category reflect the community's priorities i.e. that travel and subsistence funding to support relationship building and share knowledge, and seed corn funding to kick start collaborative research and de-risk innovative ideas are likely to have the greatest impact against our measures of success. Supporting impact and translation activity, particularly the focus on commercial entities, is important as is the capacity and capability funding for PhD students, enabling access to facilities and distance learning, but the requirement for this funding is less as these activities require an established partnership to be in place. Therefore we envision less demand.

We have projected research income from other sources based on actual income for the year 2017/18 and opportunities and funding levels likely to be available in 2018/19. We have not assumed our GCRF Hub applications will be successful.

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.

As our priority activities have been identified through community consultation, we would uphold the relative levels of funding between the activity categories if QR GCRF funding increased or decreased. If funding increased then we could create greater impact from our existing deep and strong relationships and collaborative research activity. If it decreased dramatically, then we would only fund our priority categories - the grants to support activity through travel and subsistence, and the seed corn funding. Each activity will directly and primarily benefit DAC countries.

The grants to support travel and subsistence will be used to;

- Provide organisations in developing countries access to UK expertise, enabling them
  to shape the UK research agenda, and inform and target the development of
  appropriate research solutions
- Improve the quality and quantity of research partnerships to address specific DAC country challenges
- Generate outputs to raise the profile and reputation of research and researchers working in DAC country organisations on an international scale
- Increase opportunities for research funding by the partnership organisations based in developing countries through collaborative intellectual efforts, knowledge and access to funding sources, sharing assets and knowledge

The seed corn funding will be used to:

- Develop, test and validate concepts and methodologies focused on providing solutions to specific DAC nation challenges to de-risk the chance of failure
- Increase opportunities to gain funding for research by the partnership organisations based in developing countries, through the generation of pilot data underpinning more substantive research proposals and projects

The grants to support impact and translation activity will be used to;

- Improve the economic viability for start-ups, SMEs and commercial organisations
- Support an increased understanding of the research translation process in developing countries so as to improve the efficiency, effectiveness and speed by which solutions are generated
- Assure practical, high quality and fit-for-task outcomes arise from existing or new research suitable for meeting the challenges faced by developing countries

The capacity and capability funding will be used to;

- Create an enhanced PhD experience for students from DAC countries by studying at a UK university on topics that address a challenge faced by developing countries and utilising relevant academic expertise through Cranfield supervision
- Generate outputs to raise the profile and reputation of research and researchers working in DAC country organisations on an international scale
- Provide researchers in DAC countries the opportunity to learn new techniques and concepts in the pursuit of generating research relevant to in-country challenges
- Support access to facilities and equipment for new training or research purposes by researchers from DAC nations in the pursuit of generating solutions relevant to in-country challenges
- Facilitate an improved understanding and appreciation of the challenges faced by DAC countries through the development of communities of practice so as to inform the identification and generation of solutions relevant to in-country challenges

All activities will be focused on DAC nations although primary interests are China, India, South East Asia, Africa, and South America based on our long-standing partnerships and research.

7. Based on indicative funding allocations, what are your **priorities** for QR GCRF activity in 2019-20? Please include detail of how priorities will change with increases and decreases to QR GCRF funding, and details of how each priority meets ODA criteria.

Given that the priority activities have been identified through community consultation and take time to generate fruitful outcomes, we would continue to support the priorities as outlined for 2018/19 and uphold the relative levels of funding between the activity categories if QR GCRF funding increased or decreased. If the level of funding decreased dramatically, then we would only fund our priority categories - the grants to support activity through travel and subsistence, and the seed corn funding.

The GCRF Review Committee is responsible for monitoring the distribution of spend and activity according to the priorities and allocations outlined in the funding plan. It is also responsible for evaluating activity outcomes and identifying lessons learned from funded activities to help shape the following year's strategy. Additionally, the Committee will review the UK and Global landscape for changes in policy, funding priorities and collaborative research needs and will adjust our programme in line with relevant new and emerging priorities and/or emergency or disaster requirements. Therefore, if changes are required in the balance of the funding allocation between the categories, or indeed, if new activities should be supported, then the priorities may change over time.

8. Based on indicative funding allocations, what are your **priorities** for QR GCRF activity in 2020-21? Please include detail of how priorities will change with increases and decreases to QR GCRF funding, and details of how each priority meets ODA criteria.

Given that the priority activities have been identified through community consultation and take time to generate fruitful outcomes, we would continue to support the priorities as outlined for 2018/19 and uphold the relative levels of funding between the activity categories if QR GCRF funding increased or decreased. If the level of funding decreased dramatically, then we would only fund our priority categories - the grants to support activity through travel and subsistence, and the seed corn funding.

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