

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

Global Challenges Research Strategy 2018/19–2020/21

Our vision

By 2021 the University of Liverpool (UoL) will be delivering a portfolio of research projects with impact in a wide range of developing countries (low and middle income countries (LMICs)) which contributes to the UN's 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda. This forms an important pillar of UoL's institutional strategy to be a connected, global university at the forefront of global leadership by 2026.

Core principles

- The university has a critical mass of expertise and experience in global health which has enabled success in winning ODA (Official Development Assistance) and global

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

challenges funding. There have also been notable successes in the humanities and social science areas. There is considerable potential to engage the science and engineering community.

- The research portfolio will build on existing university strengths and broaden into other challenge and discipline areas.
- Research will meet the two criteria of research excellence and delivering impact in developing countries.
- Internal opportunities (e.g. pump priming and fellowships) will be made available across the university on a competitive basis.
- UoL recognises the importance of global challenges research being led by the academic community. This will take place within a framework informed by the university's wider strategies (e.g. international strategy and research strategy).
- UoL will bid for funding from the full range of ODA funders – GCRF, Newton Fund, National Institute for Health Research (NIHR)/Department of Health global health research, DFID (Department for International Development), DCMS (Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport) Cultural Protection Fund and other ODA funding). UoL also recognises the importance of working with non-governmental funders (Wellcome Trust, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation) who are not providing ODA funding but are addressing the needs of LMICs.
- UoL will work with developing country collaborators in mutually beneficial partnerships.
- UoL will work in partnership with other UK groupings and institutions, for example the N8 Research Partnership and the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine.
- UoL ODA capability will be built in both the academic and professional services communities.
- Oversight of the strategy will be carried out by the Global Challenges Strategy Group.

Objectives

- to secure external research funding to enable research projects which deliver impact at scale in the developing world

This will be achieved through supporting bids for GCRF, Newton and other ODA projects (particularly with impact and ODA design). To develop a pipeline of proposals we will support bids for external pump priming schemes (e.g. national academies networking, Newton Fund and British Council).

QR GCRF activity will underpin the first pipeline stage through awareness raising, capability building and pump priming.

The outcome will be a portfolio of externally funded research projects addressing a broad range of countries and challenge areas.

- to build research capacity and capability in the developing world

This will be achieved by including a capacity building element in projects where allowed by funders and supporting bids for externally funded fellowship schemes.

QR GCRF activity will complement this by developing an internal visiting development fellowship scheme.

The outcome will be a cohort of LMIC researchers equipped with leadership, research and impact skills who can deliver benefits for the developing world.

- to articulate UoL's role in delivering impact in the developing world

There are several important messages arising from our ODA research - making an impact and changing peoples' lives, building research capacity in the developing world, working in partnership. Individual projects can form the basis of impact case studies but the portfolio of projects also allows the institution to define its role in contributing to the ODA and sustainable development agendas.

QR GCRF activity will support the development of impact case studies.

The two main outcomes will be a set of impact case studies for future REF exercises and messages to be embedded into university strategy and communications.

- to broaden the portfolio of international partnerships

Externally funded projects enable partnerships to be developed and maintained at scale. We will leverage our funded projects to work beyond the immediate project co-investigators. For example, we have aligned One Health activity (see pg6) with the long-standing work of King's College London in Somaliland. We will support bids for external pump priming and fellowships which build the relationships which are the foundation of future partnerships.

QR GCRF activity will be used to broaden the range of international partnerships through pump priming and visiting development fellowship schemes.

The two main outcomes will be: integration of ODA research partnerships with the university international strategy, an expanded portfolio of university international partnerships.

- to build UoL research capability and internationalise the research environment to address developing world challenges

ODA research plays a significant role in internationalising the research environment and contributing to institutional QR strategy (see pg 8).

QR GCRF activity will include awareness raising and capability building events for UoL academic and professional services staff.

The outcome will be an internationalised research environment which can be articulated in future REF 2026 exercises.

QR GCRF strategic plan 2018/19-2020/21

The QR GCRF strategic plan builds on infrastructure that was put in place in 2016 and is informed by the experience of delivering activities in 2016/17 and 2017/18. UoL began taking a strategic approach to GCRF in July 2016 with the establishment of a Strategy Group and Operational Group. A Strategic Projects Manager (International) was appointed in November 2016 and a pump priming scheme developed in 2016/17 incorporating the HEFCE Newton Fund allocation. For 2017/18, the QR GCRF allocation enabled a more ambitious plan of activities to be developed and delivered (see question 5, pg 13).

The QR GCRF strategic plan has been consulted on with the Global Challenges Strategy Group, the Research and Impact Strategy Committee and the Senior Management Team.

Challenge areas. A portfolio analysis of UoL's externally funded ODA projects shows the majority being in the challenge area of global health, a reflection of existing strengths. There has been some successes in anti-slavery, cities and heritage and some environment. The QR GCRF strategic plan will build on this to encourage work in new areas.

Disciplines and inter-disciplinarity. There has been strong take up by the Faculty of Health and Life Sciences. Awareness raising activity in the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences has been rewarded with strong participation in the 2017/18 pump priming scheme. This has been helped by the beacon effect of the successful flagship AHRC project on anti-slavery. Awareness raising and capability building activity will be increased for the Faculty of Science & Engineering. Environmental sciences is one area of focus that has been identified.

UoL's Strategy 2026 identified three research themes where we have depth and critical mass in distinctive world-leading areas - Advanced Materials, Personalised Health, and Infectious Disease. These themes have resulted from a long-term strategy, consistency of focus and high quality leadership and have benefited from targeted investment in recent years. Complementing these are a set of emerging themes including Energy, Healthy Living and Ageing, Genomes to life, Digital, Heritage and Food systems. The research themes have specific research and impact plans as well as leadership and partnership strategies. A focus of the QR GCRF strategic plan will be to work with the research themes to address global challenges.

Countries. An analysis of our portfolio of externally funded ODA projects shows a strong geographical focus on sub-Saharan African countries:

GCRF Mexico, Brazil, Argentina, Columbia

Sierra Leone, Ghana, Cameroon, Benin, Rwanda, Democratic Republic of Congo, Uganda, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Somaliland, Kenya, Tanzania, Malawi, South Africa

India, Sri Lanka, China, Malaysia; Palestinian Territories

Newton Fund Mexico, Colombia, Brazil; Kenya, Malawi, South Africa; Egypt; India, Kazakhstan; China, Malaysia, Thailand, Vietnam, Philippines

Other ODA funding Dominican Republic; Uganda, South Africa; Turkey, Iraq; India, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Myanmar

This reflects UoL's strengths in global health and research presence in Malawi (Malawi-Liverpool Wellcome Trust clinical research programme) and Kenya (joint appointment and research group at ILRI (International Livestock Research Institute)). Other countries that feature significant activity include Brazil, Mexico, Colombia, India, China, Pakistan and Thailand.

UoL's 2017/18 pump priming call invited proposals for new countries not already part of UoL's portfolio. This will continue in the three year strategy with a particular focus on three regions: Middle East and North Africa (MENA), Latin America and the Caribbean, Central and Eastern Europe.

Two priority countries for UoL are India and China. Activity will be expected to deliver impact with the most vulnerable populations in the two countries or deliver impact in "third countries" (other DAC countries) through working with Indian or Chinese partners.

Pump priming schemes are a crucial tool for developing research activity and a means of shaping the research portfolio. The 2016/17 pump-priming scheme played a significant role in securing two flagship projects (HORN One Health in the Horn of Africa (RCUK Collective Fund) and the Anti-slavery Knowledge Network in Africa (AHRC)). Pump priming will have two main objectives: developing new research concepts and testing proof of concept; building new relationships and collaborations with academic (universities, research institutes) and non-academic partners (governments, NGOs to ensure impact).

The three year framework will enable two changes - increasing the maximum level of applications (from £10,000 to £20,000) and potentially allowing projects that span financial years.

The Research Co-ordinator will also work with previously pump-primed projects (2016/17, 2017/18) to help researchers in developing their ideas further.

Delivering impact. It was decided not to plan impact activity using QR GCRF. This is to avoid duplication of already existing impact schemes in the university and recognition that externally funded projects are expected to plan and resource impact as part of the project and not see it as an add-on. Instead, existing impact schemes will be expected to include global challenges projects and any global challenges pump priming scheme applications will be expected to address impact.

Capability building within UoL. The first stage in this process is awareness raising - making groups in the university aware of the benefits of engaging with the global challenges agenda and the best way of getting started. Such events play a significant role when targeted at different levels e.g. university-wide, faculty, schools departments, research themes, professional services (research support, finance, impact officers). A set of successful projects will be identified from the portfolio of awarded projects to act as beacons. The portfolio information gathered will allow benchmarking and comparisons across the institution and has proven effective in stimulating activity ('if they can do it, why can't we?').

The second stage is capability building. The experience of PIs (Principal Investigators) of successful GCRF projects will be harnessed, particularly to share lessons on leadership (how they put teams together and how they engaged collaborators). Resources will be developed and master classes delivered to build skills in shaping research questions and designing for impact. The professional services community will also be engaged on topics such as ODA, impact, partnership management and potentially due diligence.

Capability building of international partners. This has so far only been delivered through externally funded projects (such as HORN) and not through internal funding. The three year strategy will allow a new visiting development fellowship scheme to explicitly address capability building. Capability building will also be included in criteria for pump priming schemes.

How the QR GCRF strategic plan fits with the Global Challenges Research Strategy

The fit of QR GCRF activities with the objectives of the Global Research Strategy have been outlined earlier (see above).

The QR GCRF strategic plan is allowing the university to develop its global challenges work in three significant ways:

- the three year time allocation frame is encouraging and enabling more ambitious long-term planning. Previously planning could only be done on a one year time frame given the uncertainty of future QR GCRF allocations.
- the requirement for a three year strategy is encouraging the institution to articulate its plans in very explicit terms
- the increased funding is allowing scaling up of the activities that can be delivered. The funding is enabling the appointment of dedicated, specialised professional services staff to complement the work of the existing Strategic Projects Manager

The QR GCRF activity is mainly aimed at developing a pipeline of research proposals through awareness arising, capability building and pump priming. At the post-award stage, activity will comprise identifying beacon examples from the project portfolio and providing support to meet the full economic costs of projects. Future priorities will be to assist in developing impact case studies and support for post-award management of projects.

UK Strategy for GCRF

The Global Challenges Research Strategy and QR GCRF activities align with the UK GCRF strategy. QR GCRF activities are expected to address the UK Aid Strategy and the UN's 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda and meet the two criteria of research excellence and delivering impact in developing countries. The role of relationships and partnerships is recognised.

Challenge-led research and capacity building are supported but one area not as yet supported is agile response to emergencies. There is a tension between the short term nature of emergencies and the longer time frames of research and there is still debate over what activity falls into this category. We propose investigating this in the second year of the strategic plan.

Of the challenge areas, our portfolio is mainly in the category of equitable access to sustainable development. Pump priming activities aim to increase our portfolio in the sustainable economies and societies and human rights and good governance categories.

We are fortunate that a member of UoL's Global Challenges Strategy Group has been recently appointed to the GCRF Strategic Advisory Group (SAG). This will help us to align our strategic thinking with sector wide thinking around GCRF.

However, one area where our Global Challenges Research Strategy goes further is that it addresses all ODA funding streams and wider LMIC funders such as Wellcome Trust. The UK GCRF strategy covers just one ODA funding stream – GCRF. Newton Fund and NIHR have their own strategies and NIHR have been introducing new requirements for impact in upper middle income countries. We welcome the formation of the cross-Whitehall Strategic Coordination of Research (SCOR) Board, which is seeking to bringing greater strategic coherence to the Government's ODA research.

Institutional QR strategy

UoL's QR strategy is focused on developing aspects of the research environment, in particular developing inter-disciplinarity through research themes, personal and career development of researchers at all levels, but in particular early career researchers, and addressing impact.

The Global Challenges Research Strategy and QR GCRF strategic plan are important tools in internationalising UoL's research. We define **internationalisation** [based on Knight] as *the process of integrating an international, intercultural and/or global dimension into the goals, functions and delivery of research*. ODA research requires a developing world perspective and is a driver for change in how we work in an inter-disciplinary way, working in partnership, how we design research to deliver impact and how this is articulated.

Barriers and enablers

One barrier is the lack of buy-in from the academic community. Examples we have identified include:

- unwillingness to work with developing country partners in a truly equitable way;
- difficulty in articulating how research can be of primary benefit to a particular country (rather than research solving a "global" problem or benefiting the UK as well);
- balancing research excellence and delivering impact.

However, we see this not as a barrier, but a challenge that capability building activity will address.

One enabler is that we have already put infrastructure in place to manage our global challenges strategy and can build on the experience we have gained in doing so (see question 3, pg 11). Another vital enabler is the strong senior management interest in and support for global challenges research activity.

Key QR GCRF activities

ODA Research Seed Fund (pump-priming). To enable proof of concept research and relationship building. As in previous years, we will continue to issue two calls per year. Projects will be allocated on a competitive basis. We will likely increase maximums to £20,000 and consider allowing projects to span financial years.

China and India partnership building. Proposals will need to ensure that impact is with most vulnerable populations or where collaborating with partners from these countries delivers impact in “third-countries” (e.g. collaborate with Chinese partner to address a challenge in Malawi).

Quick response fund. Small awards at short-notice (e.g. to enable UoL representation at strategic GCRF and ODA scoping events in UK or internationally). This is to mitigate the unfortunate tendency for very short deadlines by GCRF funders. This also allows response to new priorities within the external environment.

Capability building: Included in this category are awareness raising events as well as more specific capability building in ODA, ensuring impact, and building partnerships. Events will engage both the academic and professional services communities.

Visiting development fellowships. Focused on professional development of international partners and developing research ideas and concepts with a view to external ODA funding. These will be allocated on a competitive basis.

ODA compliance. Capability building events will incorporate training on understanding ODA and ensuring compliance.

Meeting the full economic cost of ODA research funded through other sources. A set of projects has been identified as beacons of good practice. A portfolio approach has been adopted to ensure a spread of challenge areas, subject areas, geographies, and funding streams (GCRF, Newton and other –ODA (e.g. NIHR)).

Staffing. Dedicated specialised professional services support for capability building activity, administer pump priming schemes, ensure ODA compliance of QR GCRF activity and other ODA activity. The Administrator post is jointly funded with Industrial Strategy HEIF which enables efficiencies and sharing of best practice.

Main DAC countries we will collaborate with

We will continue working with the countries listed in our portfolio of GCRF projects (see pg 5).

We will continue to work with China and India which are priority countries for the university.

As the pump-priming and fellowship schemes will be academic-led and operate on a competitive basis, it is not possible in advance to specify specific impacts by countries ahead of the schemes. However, within the parameters of the scheme we expect a broader portfolio of countries, particularly in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA), Latin America and the Caribbean and Central and Eastern Europe regions.

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

Maximum 500 words

As the pump-priming and fellowship schemes will operate on a competitive basis, it is not possible in advance to specify impacts by countries ahead of the schemes. However, within the parameters of the scheme we expect a broader portfolio of challenge areas countries, particularly in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA), Latin America and the Caribbean and Central and Eastern Europe regions.

Outcomes from schemes:

20 research projects pump-primed (ODA Research Seed Fund)

6 partnerships developed in China and India addressing challenges in: energy, health, preservation of heritage and sustainable livelihoods; infectious diseases, preservation of heritage and sustainable livelihood, materials/big data.

Capability building of international partners: 12 DAC researchers per year through visiting development fellowships. An additional 12 researchers through pump priming and other projects.

Capability building of UK to address ODA: 200 UoL staff engaged. 20 non-UoL UK staff engaged.

Representation at 5 ODA strategy/policy scoping events, subject to opportunities arising (Quick response fund).

Impact from supported projects supported in the meeting full economic costing:

Kenya, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Somalia: development of a cohort of 80 One Health researchers [RCUK GCRF].

Ghana, Sierra Leone, Democratic Republic of Congo: Unified understanding of antislavery techniques to enable economic growth. Increased resources for new projects following evidence-based antislavery development [AHRC GCRF].

Malaysia, Kenya, Brazil: Farmers, smallholders, veterinarians and clinicians gain access to more effective and affordable tick control methods and increased knowledge of tick-borne diseases [BBSRC GCRF].

China: low-cost, scalable diabetic retinopathy screening that can be performed by non-expert health care workers [EPSRC GCRF + NIHR]

Mexico: Chronic kidney disease of unknown origin knowledge-base to inform health and public policy. Raised awareness of local health effects associated with environmental and working conditions. Partnership protocol to generate approaches to studying and responding [AHRC GCRF].

China: reduction in fuel poverty, development of community energy schemes [Newton Fund Innovate UK, EPSRC].

China: methods to reduce deposition of sediment in navigation channels and to manage the flood defence and the fresh water supply of the Yangtze estuarine delta system [Newton Fund EPSRC].

Pakistan: Cost-effective and scalable evidence-informed intervention to address the high burden of disease associated with depression and anxiety symptoms in adolescents [MRC GCRF + DFID + NIHR].

India: Raised awareness and understanding of the development of childhood emotional, behavioural and developmental problems [Newton Fund MRC].

(see Appendix A2 for more details)

Secondary benefits to UoL. The measures below will be used to monitor progress against QR and the internationalisation of the research environment:

- Capability building of UoL staff: 200 UoL staff engaged. 20 non-UoL UK staff engaged.
- Number of new collaborating institutions/partners: 5.

- Broadening of portfolio by challenge area: 1 successful in sustainable economies and societies or human rights and good governance categories.
- Broadening of portfolio by discipline area: 2 from the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Faculty of Science & Engineering, research themes.
- Geographical broadening: 3 new countries per year via pump priming or externally funded projects.

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

Governance and management

As previously described (see question 1, pg 4) UoL acted quickly to establish governance and management structures to oversee GCRF. This has enabled:

- rapid rollout and oversight of the HEFCE Newton Fund Allocation (made in January 2017 with a requirement for expenditure to be completed by March 2017).
- university response to HEFCE's May 2017 survey on 2016/17 ODA spend. UoL was one of only 7 out of the 28 English HEIs surveyed by HEFCE who could account for their spend and was invited to feature as a best practice example in HEFCE's report to BEIS.
- planning and monitoring of 2017/18 QR GCRF activities

The UoL Global Challenges Strategy Group has oversight of the Global Challenges Research Strategy and will be responsible for monitoring and evaluating progress of the QR GCRF strategic plan. The Senior Management Team sponsor of the Group is the Pro-Vice-Chancellor for Research & Impact. The Group includes the Associate Pro-Vice-Chancellors for Research & Impact for the three Faculties, selected research theme leads (energy, heritage) and academics active in the development sector. The Chair is the PI of the HORN project awarded in the first round of the RCUK Collective Fund. A member of the Group has recently been appointed to the GCRF Strategic Advisory Group (SAG). The Group meets every 6 weeks and reports to the Research and Impact Strategy Committee and provides updates to the International Board which is chaired by the Vice Chancellor.

The Group was established in July 2017 with the remit to position for GCRF. In September 2017 the Group's remit was broadened to cover all ODA research and maintain oversight of 2017/18 QR GCRF. The work of the Group was recognised by a commendation in the 2017 UoL staff awards.

The Global Challenges Strategy Group will have responsibility for:

- assessing the balance of the research portfolio (challenge areas, geographical distribution, discipline areas);
- design of QR GCRF activities to ensure fit with strategy and ODA compliance;
- monitoring of QR GCRF activities for effectiveness, finance, ODA compliance;
- monitoring outputs, outcomes and economic and social impacts of projects;
- identifying lessons learnt from delivery of activities and ensuring these are fed back into future design decisions.

An update on the progress of QR GCRF activities will be included as a standing agenda at each meeting of the Global Challenges Strategy Group.

The Global Challenges Strategy Group will provide quarterly updates on QR GCRF activities to the Research and Impact Strategy Committee.

In parallel with the Strategy Group, the Global Challenges Operational Group meets every two weeks. The Operational Group brings together professional services representatives from research, international, marketing and communications based centrally and in Faculties and Schools. This ensures integration and smooth delivery of activities.

An update on QR GCRF activities will be provided at meetings of the Global Challenges Operational Group and lessons learnt at an operational level will be collected. The Operational Group also includes professional services staff responsible for the Industrial Strategy. This provides a valuable means of sharing best practice on pump priming and capability building schemes.

Global Challenges Team

A small professional services team has been established within the central Research Policy team. This consists of a Strategic Projects Manager and two posts funded by QR GCRF- a Research Co-ordinator and Research Administrator (0.5 FTE). UoL operates a structure which devolves budget and responsibility to the Faculty level. A small central team helps to ensure consistency and rigour to ensure ODA compliance and efficient spending at the operational level.

Management information

The university tracks externally funded bids and projects using the Integrated Research Information System (IRIS). However, the complex nature of ODA research funding and inconsistency in funder descriptions means that it can be difficult for research support officers to accurately categorise projects. The Global Challenges Strategy team has manually supplemented IRIS information by adding information such as funding streams and international partners. This is then cross checked with listings on RCUK's Gateway to Research website, funder sites and information held by Universities UK International Unit. This provides a comprehensive and accurate picture of our portfolio of ODA-funded research.

Ensuring ODA compliance

The Global Challenges team will act as a repository of ODA compliance expertise. The Global Challenges Strategy Group has considerable ODA compliance experience, through leading and delivering ODA compliant projects or being part of research council/NIHR evaluation panels. The Global Challenges team in liaison with the Global Challenges Strategy Group will act as an institutional check on ODA compliance at the process level (e.g. design of scheme criteria) as well as at individual project level (e.g. when evaluating proposals).

ODA compliance begins with raising the awareness of staff and building their capabilities in addressing ODA. Resources and training events on ODA compliance will be developed and delivered to academics and professional services staff. This will be complemented by support at the Faculty and School level via the Global Challenges Operational Group and support by the ODA team.

ODA compliance of pump-primed projects and visiting fellowships will be ensured through rigorous central control of the design and delivery of the schemes. The schemes will be centrally managed by the ODA team so ensuring consistency across the Faculties and ODA compliance. Applicants will need to submit (as they do presently) an ODA statement modelled on that required by funders (RCUK, NIHR). The Global Challenges Strategy Group will oversee design of the pump priming schemes and fellowships criteria and will be involved in the evaluation of proposals to ensure ODA compliance.

We will keep up to date with changes in ODA thinking through liaison by the ODA team and the Global Changes Strategy Group with research funders. For example we have recently liaised with EPSRC on changes in ODA requirements for upper middle income countries. We will exchange best practice through regular meetings of the N8 Research Partnership GCRF representatives, which was set up in February 2017 and meets every two months. The Strategic Projects Manager has delivered GCRF and ODA best practice workshops to the UK sector through ARMA - the professional association for research managers and administrators in the UK.

An important ethos of global challenges work is to ensure transparency and engagement across the university. Outcomes and decisions from the Global Challenges Strategy Group will be made available via an Intranet site. A tool will be developed for the intranet site which will provide a world map of ODA research projects, both externally funded and funded via internal pump priming schemes. This will help with transparency but will also act as a networking tool to enable people to make connections and share experience.

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

As the pump-priming schemes will be competitive and academic-led, it is not possible in advance to specify impacts by challenges and countries ahead of the schemes. The Global Challenges Strategy Group will oversee design of the scheme criteria and evaluation of proposals to ensure ODA compliance. However, within the parameters of the scheme we expect a broader portfolio of challenges and countries, particularly in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA), Latin America and the Caribbean and Central and Eastern Europe regions.

The list of projects being supported to meet the full economic costs of research are only a selection of the full portfolio of ODA research.

For 2017/18, a programme of activities was planned for the QR GCRF allocation of £662,884. The main elements were:

- non-staffing £208,000. Made up of: ODA Research Seed Fund (pump-priming) £130,000; China partnerships £30,000, India partnerships £30,000; Quick response £11,000; Capability building £2,000; Operational £5,000;
- staffing £86,000
- support for meeting the full economic costs of research projects £368,884

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

Should there be an increase in funding in 2018/19, the priority actions will be to:

1. Scale up of the ODA Research Seed Fund (pump priming)
2. Scale up of the visiting development fellowship scheme

Depending on the level of increase, this would allow us to bring forward activities planned for 2019/20 and 2020/21:

4. Trial the due diligence and partnership management capability building activities
5. Introduce an outward fellowship scheme
6. Trial the post-award capability building activities (e.g. project management)

Should there be a decrease in funding in 2018/19, the priority will be to ensure the coherence of the programme of activities. The mitigating actions, in order of priority:

1. Scale down of the ODA Research Seed Fund scheme
2. Scale down of the visiting fellowship scheme
3. Scale down of support in meeting full economic costs of externally funded research projects

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

The ODA research landscape is very hard to predict and is subject to a great deal of change. It will be important to maintain flexibility across the programme of QR activity to respond to changes in the external funder environment. One unknown is the future of GCRF itself beyond 2021

An evaluation will be carried out of 2018/19 QR activity by the Global Challenges Strategy Group to assess effectiveness and to identify lessons learnt. This will be used to reprioritise and rebudget accordingly.

The 2019/20 programme of QR activity is expected to comprise the range of activities proposed for 2018/19: ODA Research Seed Fund, Partnership funds, Visiting Development Fellowships, staffing, and meeting the cost of ODA projects.

One area we anticipate needing to prioritise is resourcing to meet increasing funder requirements for due diligence or reporting. For example, NIHR is requiring NIHR global health research groups to register on the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI) register. If the level of funder requirements this could result in the need to fund staffing or capability building and training for partner identification and due diligence.

New activities we would like to explore in 2019/20:

- pump priming to address the challenge of agile responses in emergency situations
- support for bringing together projects to identify lessons learnt. For example, NIHR would like to see global health research groups together
- developing an outward fellowship scheme to enable UoL staff to be based at DAC partners. This would also develop resources for staff to help them with capability building at the DAC institution.
- post-award capability building activities e.g. aimed at project managers of operational externally funded projects
- support for strategic projects. In the area of infectious disease we have the CEIDR (Centre of Excellence in Infectious Diseases Research) collaboration with the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine which provides an access point for external companies and organisations to our capabilities and expertise. Other options are the Malawi-Liverpool Wellcome Trust clinical research programme or Kenya (joint appointment and research group at ILRI (International Livestock Research Institute)).

If by early 2019 it is apparent that GCRF and Newton will not continue then:

- staffing will continue
- visiting development fellowship scheme will continue
- support for meeting the full economic cost of research projects will continue.
- the pump priming activity is likely to be reshaped so that there is less emphasis on creating a pipeline of applications. In that case criteria is likely to be revised to encourage stand-alone research projects.

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

If by early 2020 it is apparent that GCRF and Newton will be continuing beyond 2021 Then the programme of QR activity is expected to comprise the range of activities proposed for 2018/19: ODA Research Seed Fund, Visiting Development Fellowships, staffing, and meeting the cost of ODA projects.

However, if by early 2020 it is apparent that GCRF and Newton will not continue beyond 2021 then:

- staffing will continue
- visiting development fellowship scheme will continue
- the pipeline element of the pump priming fund will be deprioritised and reshaped to fund stand-alone research projects.
- the support for meeting the full economic cost of research projects will continue.

Irrespective of GCRF continuing or not continuing, we anticipate that in the third year of the plan, the priority will be developing impact case studies based on successful externally funded projects.