



Department for
Digital, Culture,
Media & Sport



Arts and
Humanities
Research Council

AHRC Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF) Urgency Grants highlight notice for Proposals Addressing Impacts on Cultural Heritage resulting from Natural Disasters and Climate Change

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II. Introduction

The aim of this highlight notice in AHRC’s Pilot GCRF Urgency Grants Scheme is to encourage applications exploring in innovative ways what it means to respond effectively to the impacts on cultural heritage (tangible and intangible) in low and middle countries (LMICs) (all countries on the OECD DAC list for ODA funding) resulting from natural disasters and climate change (including local hazards).

This highlight notice is being launched as a part of a funding partnership between the AHRC and the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS). Working with other partners such as the AHRC and British Council, DCMS is currently scoping and piloting a new workstream [to be funded as a part of UK Official Development Assistance (ODA)] focused on supporting developing countries to respond effectively to the challenges for cultural heritage resulting from natural disasters and climate change. The research supported through this highlight notice will be expected to form a part of, and inform, the scoping and development of this new workstream.

Proposals are sought which respond in an agile way in order to inform future research and policy in this area, ranging in scope from prevention and resilience, to preparedness and response, including emergency response, to living with, and adapting to change and/or loss. Proposals which explore learning from past cultural heritage emergency responses and/or which explore learning or intersections with responses to risks to, and impacts upon, cultural heritage resulting from other crises (e.g. conflict, displacement) will be welcomed.

Funding of up to £150,000 (fEC) is available over periods of up to 12 months in duration in line with the standard provisions and eligibility requirements of the AHRC GCRF Urgency Grants scheme, unless stated otherwise in this highlight notice document. We are hoping to fund approximately 5-8 projects through this highlight notice and expect this cohort of projects to work collaboratively together and with the AHRC and DCMS, and other linked scoping and ongoing work, to contribute to the future development of innovative research, policy and practice agendas on the intersections between cultural heritage and climate change and/or natural disasters.

It should be noted that applications addressing urgent research opportunities relating to cultural heritage in LMICs (including proposals that are not related to the impacts of climate change/ natural disasters) may continue to be submitted to AHRC's Urgency Grants Scheme beyond the end of this highlight notice for the remainder of the pilot phase of the scheme (currently October 2020), provided that they meet the urgency, remit, eligibility and other requirements of the urgency grants pilot scheme.

The deadline for Expressions of Interest for proposals under this highlight notice is **31st March 2020**. The deadline for full proposals for invited full proposals following the submission of an EOI is expected to be 7th May 2020 (tbc).

However, in recognition of the evolving situation around the current coronavirus outbreak and the impact this may have on applicants' ability to form proposals in response to this highlight notice, applicants who wish to submit Eols for proposals still requiring further development are encouraged to do so in order to register their interest in this area.

III. Context

In the wake of natural disasters, and the increasing risks posed to cultural heritage by climate change, the need for improved preparedness measures is a key priority for the global heritage community. For example, in 2019 ICOMOS published a report "The Future of Our Pasts: Engaging Cultural Heritage in Climate Action" noting that "climate change has become one of the most significant and fastest growing threats to people and their cultural heritage worldwide". In 2017 the UNESCO General Conference adopted an Addendum to its Strategy for the Reinforcement of the UNESCO's action for the Protection of Culture and the Promotion of Cultural Pluralism in the Event of Armed Conflict, concerning emergencies associated with disasters caused by natural and human-induced hazards.

Recognising the growing importance of these issues, DCMS (working with partners including the AHRC and British Council) is currently scoping and piloting a new cultural heritage protection workstream [to be funded as a part of UK Official Development Assistance (ODA)] on natural disasters and climate change impacts. Funding for projects supported under this highlight notice is being provided by DCMS as part of its collaboration with AHRC and is intended to support the overall commitment to the new workstream on cultural heritage, natural disasters and climate change. It is envisaged that the DCMS/AHRC collaboration will be distinctive from, but complementary to, the DCMS/ British Council Cultural Protection Fund and that in this area there could be opportunities for shared learning and collaboration between them.

We will welcome proposals for research which explore the challenges and risks for cultural / heritage protection specifically arising from, or exacerbated by, natural disasters and climate change and/or which support resilience or preparedness building measures which anticipate changes to cultural heritage likely to result from natural disasters and/or climate change. This includes inter-connected social, economic and cultural, as well as environmental, challenges for cultural heritage resulting from climate change (such as population displacement or disruption to traditional livelihoods). Applicants will need to clearly explain why they consider the challenges they wish to explore are specifically related to natural disasters and/or climate change.

Additionally, this call is open to proposals which take a more critical perspectives to the 'cultural protection' agenda and /or which recognize the contested nature of issues around heritages and their management in different cultural contexts.

For example a recent special edition of the International Journal of Heritage Studies, (2020, Issue 1) on Anticipating Loss: rethinking endangerment in heritage Futures, guest edited by Caitlyn DeSilvey and Rodney Harrison (investigators on the AHRC-funded [Heritage Futures](#) project), has critically engaged with dominant discourses of endangerment and consequential attempts to arrest or reverse processes of loss and change. The papers in this special edition explore alternative ways of valuing objects, places and practices which are not solely determined by notions of endangerment and risk and develop themes such as the *inevitability* of loss; the *politics* of loss; and the *potential* in loss. Similarly we will also welcome proposals which critically reflect the complexities of addressing factors relating to natural disasters and/ or climate change from a range of intersecting contextual issues and heritage challenges or which address issues relating to heritage and natural disasters/ climate change in the context of wider issues around for example around heritage values, significance and futures.

This highlight notice provides an opportunity to build on the existing substantial body of AHRC funded research on Cultural Heritage, which includes a significant number of ODA funded projects on cultural heritage in developing countries funded through the GCRF and Newton Fund and a number of projects exploring issues around responses to natural disasters / environmental change. Some examples of relevant projects can be found on the website (<https://heritage-research.org/>) of the AHRC's Priority Area Leadership Fellow for Heritage (Professor Rodney Harrison, UCL) along with a number events organized by the Leadership Fellow including on the theme of heritage and climate change. In addition the AHRC-funded network "[Praxis: Arts and Humanities for Global Challenges](#)"

has recently organised a number of events on the theme of heritage and international development, including a Nexus event in Lebanon in February 2020 bringing together a range of ODA-funded heritage research projects. Further details of the AHRC's wider ODA portfolio can be found on the [AHRC's webpages](#) and through [Gateway to Research](#) and information on the wider UKRI GCRF portfolio on the UKRI pages at <https://www.ukri.org/research/global-challenges-research-fund/funded-projects/>

Whilst there is no requirement or expectation that applicants under this urgency call will have been in receipt of prior AHRC research funding, we would welcome proposals which build upon past AHRC-funded research, for example to consolidate learning or explore its wider transferability or to test and further develop ideas for new or enhanced responses emerging from past research. Similarly whilst there is no expectation that proposals will have been funded in the past through other initiatives, such as the DCMS / British Council [Cultural Protection Fund](#), research applications which explore or develop learning from activities supported through other funding routes will be welcomed.

IV. Aims of the Call

A. Scope

This highlight notice seeks to encourage innovative research applications addressing what it means to respond effectively to impacts on cultural heritage (tangible and intangible) in low and middle countries (LMICs) resulting from natural disasters and climate change (including local hazards). Proposals are sought which respond in an agile way in order to inform future research and policy in this area, ranging in scope from prevention and resilience, to preparedness and response, including emergency response, to ways to anticipate and/or cope with the loss or change to heritage assets resulting from climate change / natural disasters. Proposals which explore learning from past cultural heritage emergency responses and/or which explore learning or intersections with responses to risks to cultural heritage resulting from other crises (e.g. conflict, displacement) will be welcomed.

The highlight notice seeks to encourage the urgent submission of applications that will help to scope future research, policy and practice agendas in this area and/or proposals for innovative exploratory research addressing current threats to cultural heritage assets resulting from natural disasters and climate change (including for example, extreme weather events, sea level rise, etc.). In addition, to proposals which address urgent / emergency response measures, applications which take a long-term view on policies and practices for sustainable future heritage management in the

light of climate change and natural disasters will be welcomed. This includes research embedding longer term research perspectives into urgent / emergency response, as well as proposals exploring the need to put cultural heritage onto a new trajectories or pathways for longer term resilience building and change management processes in the light of the future anticipated impacts of climate change and natural disasters. The highlight notice also seeks to support proposals that would bring together insights from past research addressing the challenges of climate change and natural disasters for the protection cultural heritage. The aim is to bring together different research, policy and practice perspectives to inform the development by DCMS of this new workstream and its impact on future research, policy and practice in this area. The work supported will also potentially inform future AHRC GCRF research agendas in areas such as mobilising cultural assets for inclusive sustainable development and prosperity, agile responses to emergencies and building resilience to environmental and climate change.

It is recognised that heritage is not static and is changing and evolving over time as a result of a multiplicity of intersecting factors. Therefore, the scope of the highlight allows for research exploring approaches which move beyond protection, repair or reconstruction to consider ways to deal more effectively and creatively with the loss, damage, change to, or displacement of heritage, such as alternative modes of memorialisation beyond physical protection. It also allows for research considering ways to work with rather than against processes of change and/or the potential to create new heritages out of the passing and destruction of old heritages. Moreover, it allows for research which explore the intersections and interactions between natural disasters and/or climate change as a driver of change and other drivers of (or barriers to) change, including opportunities to learn from responses to different sorts of challenge contexts.

We expect projects to involve equitable partnerships between UK researchers and LMIC researchers/ partners and other development partners and in some cases can consider applications through this highlight notice led by LMIC-based partner research organisations. Applicants are asked to give careful consideration to issues of ethics, duty of care, gender, equalities, diversity and inclusion in terms of proposed development impact activities. Where possible we expect proposals to capture, and critically reflect upon, evidence of impact and the distribution of benefits.

Applications can be submitted under this highlight notice for a wide range of research related activities as outlined in the AHRC GCRF urgency grants scheme guidance. This ranges from exploratory, experimental, scoping and pilot research; urgent mining, analysis or collection of research-related data, and prototyping or testing the transferability or scaling of research for policy

and practice, through to literature reviews/ research synthesis, consolidating learning from past research, knowledge exchange, public policy, research-based innovation / practice, research networking / partnership development, research capability building, research impact enhancement and public engagement/participation (in LMICs) which have the potential to contribute towards international development and the welfare of people in LMICs.

Examples of types of activities which might be included in applications under this highlight notice include:

- Scoping / case studies, pilot or exploratory research and/or data collection/ analysis, to inform the development, testing and assessment of approaches to improve emergency responses to, or recovery from, threats to cultural heritage (tangible and intangible) in low and middle countries (LMICs) resulting from natural disasters and climate change (including local hazards).
- Research building the evidence base for the protection of cultural heritage exposed to natural disaster risks and/or vulnerable to the impacts of climate change. This could include, for example, research:
 - building the evidence base for the cultural value, significance and socio-economic impact of loss of the cultural heritages at risk;
 - informing resilience building strategies and/or preparedness for natural disasters / climate change;
 - exploring the intersections between, and/or transferability of learning between, complex contexts for cultural heritage risks and protection, such as conflict & fragility, displacement, extreme poverty and inequalities, etc.
- Reviews, synthesis, learning from the past or projects to explore the transferability or scalability of learning from, and/or impact from, past research and experience.
- Research based capability development activities, for example around development of research-based training / learning materials, modules, networks, courses, digital tools etc. to support LMIC communities, researchers, heritage/cultural organisations, professional/ practitioner / voluntary groups, policy-makers, business and other stakeholders to build resilience, prepare for, or respond to, natural disasters or climate change impacts on cultural heritage

This highlight notice recognises the cross-disciplinary nature of the heritage research and science fields and the value of inter-disciplinary approaches bringing together insights from the arts and humanities, heritage sciences, social and natural sciences (including physical, life and

environmental sciences) and other fields of research and innovation such as engineering, health and/or digital and other technologies. **Inter-disciplinary boundary-crossing proposals are welcomed, including those proposals that cross Research Council remits.** Proposals under this highlight notice are encouraged to draw significantly across relevant heritage, arts and humanities and wider expertise and research literatures and, where applicable, to evidence understanding / engagement with any local and cultural contexts of any specific heritages they are exploring.

Proposals focused on a specific heritage form of heritage, site, context or natural disaster relevant to one or more Low or Middle Income Country (any country on the OECD DAC list of countries eligible to receive ODA funding, apart from countries expected to graduate off the DAC list in the near future) will be welcomed. Where proposals focus on specific cultural heritages, sites or contexts, applicants are encouraged to integrate understanding of the local / cultural and historic contexts of heritages and engagement with local knowledges, expertise and communities into the design of proposals. In addition, such proposals should consider the potential transferability scalability of any learning from that particular heritage context for wider research, policy and practice in the field. Where relevant, specific activities should be built into proposals to explore, debate, share, challenge etc. the wider applicability of approaches, lessons or learning from the specific contexts focused on in the project.

Proposals focused around supporting knowledge exchange with cultural, creative and heritage organisations (such as museums, galleries, libraries, archives, performance groups, craft-makers, etc.) would be eligible under the highlight notice. Additionally, proposals focused on wider non-academic groups in the public, private and voluntary sectors in ODA-recipient countries, or international development organisations/non-academic organisations with a significant international engagement remit, would also be eligible under the highlight notice.

B. 'Urgency' Case Requirements for this Highlight Notice

The scoping and development phase of activities being led by DCMS for a new workstream on what it means to respond effectively to impacts on cultural heritage (tangible and intangible) in low and middle countries (LMICs) resulting from natural disasters and climate change (including local hazards) provides the urgent policy context for this highlight notice. The opportunity to contribute to this workstream addresses the time-limited research opportunity requirement for applications to AHRC's pilot GCRF Urgency Grants scheme. This aligns with the following provisions within the existing Urgency grants criteria for proposals addressing:

“An unexpected opportunity to conduct substantive research over a period of months informing .. or to participate in a one-off time-limited major policy or practice event (e.g. ... policy review process) which offer a substantial and unique opportunity for innovative research, research synthesis and/or knowledge exchange relating to international development and/or directly relating to development in one or more LMIC”

Accordingly to be eligible under this urgency grants highlight notice applications must have the capacity to contribute to the scoping / pilot / development phase of the DCMS workstream on what it means to respond effectively to impacts on cultural heritage (tangible and intangible) in low and middle countries (LMICs) resulting from natural disasters and climate change (including local hazards).

Projects funded under this highlight notice will be expected to actively contribute to the DCMS workstream which aims to provide robust evidence (through a combination of research, analysis and innovative practice) and recommendations for future policy and programmes. The projects funded through this highlight notice must accord with, and be achievable / deliverable within, the timetable (including latest start and end dates) outlined in this call document to ensure that they can contribute in a timely way to the DCMS development process. As a part of this applicants should be willing to contribute to share and discuss interim research outcomes before the completion of projects and to contribute their expertise and experience to wider learning and development activities which may extend beyond the specific scope of their funded urgency grant. Award holders will be expected to contribute to at least two research /policy workshops /fora/ conferences which are likely to include at least one event held during the lifetime of the urgency grant and one held close to or after its completion. Additional reporting requirements are also expected including producing a short interim progress report and producing a short and accessible policy briefing document summarizing the research findings and their implications for future policy and practice.

Provided that proposals respond to the urgent policy opportunity outlined above they do not need to be responding to a current cultural heritage protection emergency resulting from a recent natural disaster. Nevertheless, we will welcome proposals under the highlight notice which do respond to current cultural heritage emergencies and /or which seek to pilot / test approaches in an emergency/ urgency context. Proposals which respond to such urgent /emergency contexts could continue to be submitted under the urgency grants scheme after the end of the highlight notice provided that they meet the eligibility requirements and fall within the scope and remit of

the pilot call.

V. Remit and Eligibility

The eligibility criteria as detailed in the AHRC GCRF Urgency Grants scheme will apply including provisions to support equitable partnership working with LMICs, international co-investigators, funding for NGOs within grants and for proposals led by LMIC partners. However, please note that these will be subject to due diligence processes/ requirements and for proposals led by LMIC organisations that have not previously successfully completed UKRI due diligence processes consideration will need to be given to the feasibility of due diligence processes being completed within the timetable outlined for award start dates outlined in the call. LMIC-led applications will be expected to include at least one co-investigator based at a UK higher education or independent research organisation (IRO) eligible to hold/ administer a UKRI research grant.

Strong ODA compliance is an essential eligibility criterion for consideration under this highlight notice. The potential added value of the proposed activities in terms of enhancing impact and benefits within LMICs and contributing to international development will be a key criterion in the assessment of applications. Additionally, a Gender Equalities Statement is required and will be considered as a part of the assessment of applications.

In terms of the LMIC context, we are open to proposals based in any country (countries) or context(s) on the DAC list of ODA recipients. However, please note that consideration will need to be given with regards to proposals focused primarily on upper middle income countries expected to graduate from the DAC list over the next few years which, depending on project timing and duration (including planned follow-up activities beyond the urgency grant), are potentially not able to be supported under this call; this includes: Antigua and Barbuda; Panama; Palau; Argentina and China. Partners from such countries could of course be included within projects and such countries could be included in multi-country studies involving other DAC list countries.

Proposals must draw significantly on relevant arts and humanities and heritage research/ science literatures, concepts or approaches and integrate understanding of the cultural context and significance of heritage, drawing on the arts and humanities, local expertise and/or wider cultural and heritage sector expertise as appropriate. Interdisciplinary proposals in the field of heritage science will be welcomed under this highlight notice.

VI. Guidance on Costs and Project Timescales

Unless otherwise stated, project costs, minimums, maximums and timescales as published for the AHRC pilot GCRF Urgency Grants call apply to the highlight notice. AHRC's standard international co-investigator and international funding policy applies but with some additional provisions for international co-investigators, LMIC-led applications and for equitable partnership work undertaken at an overseas organisation in Low or Middle Income Countries (i.e. all countries on the DAC list) as detailed in the AHRC GCRF Urgency Grants guidance

Where projects involve international co-investigators or the sub-contracting of significant elements of the funding or research delivery to international partners, it will be a condition of funding that the UK Research Organisation undertakes appropriate due diligence and financial assurance.

Where applications are led by a DAC list partner research organisation, that organisation will itself have to complete UKRI due diligence checks and conduct proportionate due diligence assurance checks on any other non-UK eligible research organisations receiving funding through the grant.

Please note that this scheme can only provide funding for research projects led by UK or LMIC organisations with a recognised research capacity. It cannot fund projects which are primarily focused on provision of direct development aid or emergency assistance, supplies or equipment. In addition, capital or infrastructure expenditure (e.g. basic office/ laboratory / accommodation furniture or equipment, building/ site construction, maintenance or refurbishment work, etc.) is not an eligible cost under this call, although additional costs incurred by existing facilities or infrastructures relating to their use as a part of the research or in the archiving of project-specific research data / outputs may be considered. Given the short duration of Urgency awards costs for equipment purchase under £10,000 will only be considered on an exceptional basis where significant use of equipment is required primarily or solely for the proposed activity and/or where this is more cost effective than other options such as hiring equipment.

The balance of intellectual, impact and engagement leadership and costs between high income countries and LMICs will be considered in the assessment of proposals, recognising that this may vary according to the specific nature, focus and context of projects. Please ensure budget breakdowns between high income and LMIC researchers and partners are justified and appropriate in respect to the equitable partnership aims of this ODA funding scheme.

Costs may be included to support inclusive participation in development impact activities, for example in terms of translation costs or support for carers. These may be incurred by either the UK or LMIC partners as appropriate. Where possible accessible venues and facilities should be selected; please note that infrastructure costs cannot be requested for example to make structural alterations to venues for improved accessibility.

The latest start date for funded projects is 1 September 2020. Projects will be expected to complete by the end of August 2021 with final reporting completed by end of October 2021.

Exceptionally in consultation with the AHRC, it may be permissible to delay project start dates beyond this or to extend the duration of awards beyond the normal one year limit due to unanticipated / unavoidable delays to research plans or increases to safety or other risks after the submission of proposal.

Please note these time lines are subject to change as required in response to the current Coronavirus outbreak and associated measures that may need to be taken.

VII. Application Process and Format

Prospective applicants should first submit an expression of interest to the AHRC to ascertain its suitability for consideration under the urgency mechanism and this highlight notice before submitting a full proposal for consideration under the urgency scheme.

Full applications will need to be submitted through the UKRI Joint electronic Submission service. Full details on how to submit a full application will be provided to applicants who have submitted an expression of interest which is judged to meet the eligibility, remit and other requirements of this highlight notice and who are invited to submit a full proposal through Je-S.

However, please note that the Principal Investigator, whether from the UK or overseas, must have a Je-S account. Where this doesn't already exist, it can be easily set-up, but please note that it can take a number of days so it is strongly recommended that the process be started well before the application deadline. Je-S accounts can be created on the Je-S site [here](#). During account set-up an account type of 'An Applicant on a Standard/Outline Proposal' must be selected. If you require assistance with the process please contact the Je-S Helpdesk at JeSHelp@je-s.ukri.org or +44 (0)1793 44 4164

A. Expression of Interest (EOI)

All Expressions of Interest (EOI) must be submitted through Smart Survey using this link:

<https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/GCRFUrgencyCall/>

The survey includes the following sections, all of which must be completed:

1. **Principle Investigator Title**
2. **Principle Investigator Forename**
3. **Principle Investigator Surname**
4. **Principle Investigator Organisation:** this will be the organisation or institution that holds and administers the grant
5. **Principle Investigator Email Address**
6. **Principle Investigator's current position**
7. **Any previous relevant funding received from the below funding organisations/routes:** a check-list of funders is provided, along with a free-text box for any not listed
8. **Short Biography** (max 300 words)
9. **Project Title:** please ensure this clearly flags-up the core research focus of the project. Please also note that it is an application under this highlight notice simply by including the word 'Highlight' in parentheses after your project title. This is just to aid the office process and will not form part of the formal project title.
10. **Intended start date of project**
11. **Duration of project:** number of months
12. **Estimated Requested Amount:** this should be the full FEC amount required. Whilst it is acknowledged that this will be an estimate at EOI stage, AHRC would expect amounts requested at full-application stage to be within +/-10% of the figure listed on the EOI and still within scheme maxima
13. **Remit:** Please describe the arts and humanities research expertise, literature, methodologies, context and concepts or approaches at the core of the project that sit within the remit of the AHRC. Further information regarding AHRC remit can be found in the [Research Funding Guide](#), pp. 77–85. (max 300 words)
14. **Urgency Case:** Please summarise how the proposal fits the criteria for consideration under the urgency scheme. In particular, why the research needs to be done within specified time

constraints and could not be supported through other funding routes. It is crucial that the case for urgency is succinctly and clearly made in this section in order for the project to be invited to submit to the full application stage. (max 500 words) **NB: Please also clearly identify at the start of this section that you are applying to this highlight notice.**

15. **ODA Eligibility:** It is a fundamental requirement of this scheme that all applications meet Official Development Assistance (ODA) requirements. Full applications will be required to submit an ODA Compliance Statement covering three areas:

- Which country/ countries on the DAC list will directly benefit from this proposal and are these countries likely to continue to be ODA eligible for the duration of the research?
- How is your proposal directly and primarily relevant to the development challenges of these countries?
- 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?
- 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

For the EOI, please briefly summarise how the project will meet these requirements. (max 300 words)

16. **People, Partnerships and Structure:** Please explain why the individuals/organisations/partners involved are the most appropriate for undertaking the proposed activities, how the project will support equitable partnership ways of working, and where relevant any capacity building for LMIC partners and/or support for any early career researchers involved, including proposed management arrangements and roles. (max 350 words)

17. **Outcomes:** Please outline the intended research outputs and outcomes of your project, together with a plan for sustainability and legacy. Please also indicate how these will make a contribution to development within an ODA context. (max 300 words)

18. **Feasibility:** Please indicate any barriers or obstacles that you may anticipate in relation to your project. A more in depth statement will be required in the full application. (max 300 words)

In completing the urgency case part of the EOI form please clearly identify that you are applying to this highlight notice call and how you envisage that the research could inform the scoping / pilot / development phase of the DCMS workstream on what it means to respond effectively to impacts on cultural heritage (tangible and intangible) in low and middle countries (LMICs) resulting from natural disasters and climate change (including local hazards).

This EOI will be used only to consider suitability for consideration under the urgency scheme and this highlight notice and will not form part of the assessment process. If the outline proposal is considered suitable for consideration under the urgency grants scheme, the applicants will be invited to submit a full proposal to the AHRC via the Je-S system at the earliest opportunity.

Once received, AHRC will assess EOIs to ascertain that they meet the key eligibility criteria of this scheme, and (wherever feasible) inform applicants within five working days of receipt. Depending on the information supplied in the EOI, applicants will either be:

- Invited to submit a full application via Je-S (see below); in some cases feedback may be given on areas that need to be addressed/ clarified in the full proposal to ensure a optimum fit to the aims of the highlight notice
- Informed that their application does not meet the fit within the scope of this highlight notice and to instead apply to see funding from another source
- Informed that their application does not meet the ODA eligibility requirements and to instead apply to another non-GCRF scheme or call
- Informed that the EOI does not contain sufficient information to reach a decision, and so asked to supply further specific details of the project

Expressions of interest under this highlight notice can be submitted up to 1600hrs (UK time) on 31st March 2020

EOIs relevant to this highlight notice can be submitted at any time before 1600 hours on 31 March 2020 and will be processed on receipt; early submission ahead of the end of the highlight is encouraged to avoid possible delays in processing if large numbers of applications are submitted close to the end of the highlight period.

However, in recognition of the evolving situation around the current coronavirus outbreak and the impact this may have on applicants' ability to form proposals in response to this highlight notice, applicants who wish to submit EoIs for proposals still requiring further development are encouraged to do so in order to register their interest in this area.

B. Full Application Stage

Invited full applications should be submitted through the Je-S system at the latest by **4pm on 7th May 2020** and will need to go through the appropriate institution submission process.

You should submit your proposal using the Research Councils' Joint electronic Submission (Je-S) System (<https://je-s.rcuk.ac.uk/>). Except where specifically noted in this call guidance document, standard AHRC policies and guidelines will apply (see [Research Funding Guide](#)).

To apply: Please select Document Type 'Standard Proposal', Scheme 'Development Grants' and Call 'AHRC GCRF Urgency Grants open call'.

This EOI should be submitted as close as possible from the first occurrence of the research opportunity and should be submitted at an early rather than an advanced stage in the development of research plans. This EOI will be used only to consider suitability for consideration under the urgency scheme and will not form part of the assessment process.

If the outline proposal is considered suitable for consideration under the urgency grants scheme, the applicants will be invited to submit a full proposal to the AHRC via the Je-S system at the earliest opportunity. Please select Document Type 'Standard Proposal', Scheme 'Development Grants' and Call 'AHRC GCRF Urgency Grants open call'.

Applicants will normally be expected to submit the full Je-S application within four weeks from the invitation to apply after which the invitation to apply will lapse; if it is not possible to submit the application within four weeks applicants should contact the AHRC to discuss whether an extended application window is exceptionally allowable.

The full application should include **a case for support of no more than 6 sides of A4** covering the following issues:

- **case for urgency funding** – summary of how the proposal fits the criteria for consideration under the urgency scheme (in particular why the research needs to be done within specified time constraints and could not be supported through other funding routes) (this section may draw heavily on the EOI submission) and key benefits for LMICs in line with ODA compliance;

- **research context**, including added value to the existing research literature / data or innovation, originality / novelty, as appropriate, as well as the wider LMIC cultural and development context for the research;
- **research aims and objectives**, including contribution to addressing development challenges, intended benefits/ beneficiaries and the potential distinctive contribution that arts and humanities research can make to the development challenges addressed, with particular focus on users and beneficiaries in LMICs and/or of direct relevance to international development policy/practice, and which describes the activities and approaches through which it is expected that the research project will make a contribution to:
 - the economic development of, and/or to the welfare (broadly defined) of people in, one or more LMIC, and/or
 - international development policy or international development practice in LMICs.

Details should be provided of planned engagement with non-academic collaborators or partners in ODA recipient countries and/or with organisations concerned with supporting international development in LMICs (e.g. aid, humanitarian or development agencies, educational organisations or charities or cultural organisations etc.).

- **research contribution and importance** – expected ways that the research will contribute to advancing knowledge, understanding, data, etc.;
- **research expertise and partnerships** – why the individuals/ organisations / partners involved are the most appropriate for undertaking the proposed activities, how the project will support equitable partnership ways of working (& where relevant capacity building and support for any early career researchers involved) and proposed management arrangements and roles;
- **proposed research activities / methods and feasibility** of conducting the proposed activities with the outlined timeframe and in the particular urgency context, including plans for addressing risks, safeguarding, due diligence and gender (and where appropriate wider) equalities;
- **research outputs / outcomes / sustainability / legacy**, including contribution to development;

In addition, the following attachments should be provided:

1. A **Justification of Resources**, including a breakdown of the total costs that are being claimed under the standard UK funding guidance regarding full economic costing (fEC), and those that fall under the supplementary funding rules for international activities as set out in Section VIII of this call guidance.
2. **Project plan / timetable** e.g. Gantt chart
3. An **ODA compliance statement** as an additional attachment (one side of A4) providing a full justification for how the research network meets the requirements for ODA funding. The RCUK guidance suggests that in completing a statement on ODA compliance applicants use the questions below:
 - i. Which country/ countries on the DAC list [with the exception of Antigua and Barbuda, Chile and Uruguay which are expected to graduate from the next DAC list] will directly benefit from this proposal and are these countries likely to continue to be ODA eligible for the duration of the research?
 - ii. How is your proposal directly and primarily relevant to the development challenges of these countries?
 - iii. 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?
 - iv. 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
4. **Short CVs** (maximum of one page) for investigators / named researchers. **Please note** separate publications lists are not required for this call, and any limited relevant publication information that applicants feel is relevant should be included within the short CVs.
5. Where possible, **letters of support** from key partners or collaborators in LMICs and/or development organisations which outline, from the partners'/ collaborators' perspective, how the activities would address a development need they have identified or which has been identified in relevant LMICs local contexts. Letters/emails confirming access/collaboration arrangements may also be submitted where appropriate. **Letters of support must not exceed two side of A4.** However, we recognize that it may not be possible to secure letters of support from all potential collaborators in the time available.

6. A **Gender Equality Statement** in line with UKRI requirements as specified in the UKRI Website. Additionally applicants are encouraged, where appropriate, to extend the statement to cover intersecting and wider issues relating to equalities, diversity, identities and inclusion, and the UN Sustainable Development ‘no-one left behind’ agenda as well as to discuss any context-specific factors which need to be taken into account in addressing issues of gender and (in)equalities.
7. **Data management plan** of up to 2 sides of A4, only where applicable (i.e. the proposal involves generating working with significant new data)

Unless stated otherwise in this call document, or in additional conditions of award, AHRC Urgency awards will be issued in accordance with standard AHRC and UKRI grant terms and conditions as outlined in AHRC’s [Research Funding Guide](#).

ODA transparency and reporting

As part of the Government’s commitment to ODA transparency and in line with DfID 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 DfID’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. Please therefore write your project title and summary in such a way that they are meaningful and accessible to non-specialist audiences, following publication. We would be grateful if you would ensure that the project title and summary are written in plain English and avoid the use of jargon, acronyms, puns and plays on words.

Please also make clear in your project title and 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.

VIII. Assessment Process and Criteria

The assessment criteria for the AHRC GCRF Urgency Grants Pilot Scheme, outlined below, will also apply to applications submitted under this highlight notice:

- fit to call, including case for urgency funding, ODA compliance and potential for distinctive

arts and humanities research contributions;

- research contribution and importance – potential for the research to make a significant and original contribution to knowledge, understanding, data and/or research capabilities and to add significant value to existing research;
- research expertise and partnerships –extent to which the proposal provides a convincing case that the individuals/ organisations / partners involved are appropriate for undertaking the proposed activities and that it will promote equitable partnerships and ways of working;
- feasibility of proposed activities / methods, including appropriate plans for addressing risks, safeguarding, due diligence and gender (and where appropriate wider) equalities, effective management arrangements and a realistic project plan;
- inclusion of a strong case for development impact and clear potential for significant impact and benefits for the development and welfare of people in low and/or middle income countries;
- extent to which the research proposal includes appropriate plans for significant research outputs and outcomes and plans for the future sustainability / legacy of the research;
- value for money.

Applications will be assessed on the basis of their quality and individual merits, according to AHRC GCRF urgency criteria which include criteria relating to ODA compliance, particularly a focus on the potential impact in LMICs and in terms of international development; other factors such as equitable partnership working and the Gender Equalities Statement will also be taken into account.

In addition, the Panel will be asked to consider the fit of proposals to this highlight notice and potential contribution of applications to the aims outlined in this document. In particular, the Panel will consider the potential to inform development of the DCMS workstream addressing what it means to respond effectively to impacts on cultural heritage (tangible and intangible) in low and middle countries (LMICs) resulting from natural disasters and climate change (including local hazards). In prioritising between high quality applications which meet the assessment criteria, the Panel may also take into account the mix, range/ spread and added value of proposals and potential to contribute to a mixed and balanced portfolio of projects (including issues such as avoiding duplication, potential synergies / complementarities, coverage of key areas, innovation within portfolio, etc)

Applications under the highlight notice will be considered by a separate assessment panel drawn from AHRC's ODA Peer Review College strategic reviewers group along with other peer reviewers and experts in international development as appropriate. Representatives from DCMS will

participate in the panel meeting in a non-voting capacity. There will be no PI response stage for applications under this highlight notice and we regret that there will be no reviewers' comments for feedback.

We will aim to reduce the time taken to review applications under this highlight so that outcomes on the majority of applications are expected to be announced by **early June 2020***.

Applications under this highlight notice will be expected to propose a start date between mid-June and (no later than) 1 September 2020*. If unanticipated circumstances arise which mean that successful applicants wish to request a later or delayed start date after **1 September 2020** they should contact the AHRC as soon as possible following the notification of the outcome of their application.

* **Please note** these timelines may be subject to change as required in response to the current Coronavirus outbreak and associated measures that may need to be taken.

Highlight Notice Timetable *

Pre-call announcement	24 February 2020
Full Highlight Notice Published and Call opens	Early March 2020
Deadline for Expressions of Interest	1600hrs (UK time) 31st March 2020
Deadline for Invited Full Proposals (via Jes)	1600hrs (UK time) 7 th May 2020
Panel	Late May 2020
Expected grant start dates	Mid- June - summer 2020 (no later than 1 September 2020)
Initial workshop for award holders	Autumn 2020
Potential Interim Workshop	Early 2021 tbc
Final workshop	Summer / Autumn 2021 tbc

IX. Scheme Requirements and Post Award Reporting

Awards funded under this highlight notice will be issued the AHRC in accordance with standard UKRI award and reporting terms and conditions, unless otherwise stated in the award or this highlight notice. However, it is anticipated that the awards issued by AHRC will be wholly or partly funded by the DCMS (using ODA funding) as a part of an MOU between the DCMS and the AHRC for the support of this highlight notice. Successful award holders will be expected to acknowledge DCMS funding in accordance given by the AHRC and DCMS at the time of award. As a part the MOU between the AHRC and DCMS, additional provisions apply to awards funded under this call for the sharing of information in research applications and project reports to AHRC on research progress and outcomes with the DCMS.

In addition to the standard reporting requirements outlined in the AHRC Research Funding Guide additional reporting requirements will apply to awards funded under this highlight notice as detailed below.

In line with standard AHRC reporting requirements, award holders will be required to submit outputs, outcomes and impacts that arise from AHRC's funding through the ResearchFish system. Information can be added to ResearchFish at any point once the award has started but award holders will also be required to 'submit' this information to AHRC at one 'Submission Period' each year. Award holders will receive an email with log-in details shortly after their award has started. More details on Researchfish are available on the RCUK website here:

<https://www.ukri.org/funding/information-for-award-holders/research-outcomes/>

Award holders funded under this highlight notice will be required to report to the AHRC at the earliest opportunity any changes to the proposed activities outlined in the proposal which might substantively affect the grant's ODA compliance (these may include, for example, changes to LMIC / development partner organisations or to the geographic focus of the work, e.g. due to access difficulties).

In addition to standard reporting requirements through ResearchFish each project team funded under this highlight notice will be required to produce a short and accessible policy briefing document summarizing the research findings and their implications for future policy and practice. This should be written in a way that is accessible to key stakeholders and will be required within two months of the end of the grant in open access form. However, we may ask for drafts of this briefing to be circulated earlier in draft form for comment / feedback / discussion. Additionally, AHRC may request an interim progress / findings report from each project on a timetable to be agreed with DCMS.

We anticipate funding a cluster of projects under this highlight notice each of which will be expected to work together collaboratively (e.g. through participating in workshops) to contribute to the development of future research, policy and practice agendas, particularly the DCMS Disaster and Climate Change Mitigation workstream. We expect this to include participation by projects in/ contributions to a number of policy workshop that will be organised in collaboration between the AHRC and DCMS (and other partners as appropriate). This may also include collaboration with other projects or activities not funded through this highlight notice which are contributing to the

DCMS workstream. Applicants may be expected to share interim findings as a part of activities before the completion of their awards and also to contribute relevant expertise or experience (e.g. at workshops) on issues which extend beyond the specific scope of their individual urgency grant. These workshops / events may be held both during the lifetime of awards and in the year following the completion of awards.

X. Further Information on Eligible International Costs for GCRF Urgency Grants

AHRC’s standard international co-investigator and international funding policy applies but with some additional provisions for the costs of equitable partnership work undertaken at an overseas organisation in Low or Middle Income Countries (i.e. all countries on the DAC list) as summarised in the table below.

However, please note that international co-investigators and other partners from countries due to graduate from the DAC list (this includes: Antigua and Barbuda; Panama; Palau; Argentina and China) may be included in applications but will be expected to be costed in line with AHRC’s standard co-investigator policy and not the enhanced funding available to other co-investigators / partners from DAC list countries.

Description	Research Councils Contribution (percent)
Costs incurred for overseas Co-Investigators and any locally employed staff, e.g. percent of actual salary based on time worked on the grant (entered as exceptions on Je-S form).	100
Costs incurred by the overseas organisation and associated with the research, e.g. consumables, field work, translation costs, supporting inclusive participation, etc. (entered as exceptions on Je-S form).	100
Costs incurred by overseas investigators or staff for travel and expenses (entered as exceptions on Je-S form).	100
A contribution towards indirect and estates costs at overseas organisations in LMIC/developing countries is permissible, calculated at up to 20% of the total direct costs charged to the grant relating to the activities of the LMIC co-investigator(s), (entered as exceptions on the Je-S form).	100

Applicants should seek contributions from project partners, e.g. business, government and third

sector organisations, where appropriate. In acknowledgment of the fact that some smaller third-sector organisations do not have the capacity to co-fund research activities, costs to support partners from third sector organisations (e.g. NGOs) are eligible under this call. This includes costs for staff salaries (no more than 1 FTE per annum), travel and subsistence, other direct costs and overheads. Costs will be funded at 100 percent fEC and should be entered as Other Directly Incurred Exceptions on the Je-S form. Total costs associated with third sector bodies' contribution should not normally exceed 30 percent of the overall cost of the grant at 100 percent fEC, however exceptional cases may be considered where the research impact activities require additional work by partners which fall outside their normal activities – a full case for any exceptions should be made in the Justification for Resources.

Key variations to the standard AHRC policy on international co-investigator policy for this GCRF call are:

- i) there is no 30% limit on total overseas co-investigator costs for individuals based in developing countries (on the DAC list), although a 30% limit applies to costs associated with overseas co-investigators who are not based in developing countries on the DAC list;
- ii) in addition to the costs for overseas academic co-investigators, costs for third sector/NGO partners may also be funded at 100% fEC, normally subject to 30% overall limit of the total cost of an award at 100% fEC; where the 30% limit is exceeded a full justification in terms of the intellectual and practical contribution to the research of the third sector partner should be provided. In addition, staff salaries at third sector/NGO organisations are not expected to exceed 1 FTE per annum.
- iii) A contribution towards indirect and estates costs can be made for overseas organisations within DAC list (LMIC) countries, calculated at up to 20% of the total eligible direct costs charged to the grant directly relating to the activities of the LMIC co-investigator; however, in line with the standard AHRC co-investigator policy, estates/indirect/overhead costs cannot be requested for international co-investigators employed by academic organisations which are not based in a DAC list country (i.e. research organisations located in developed countries and their subsidiaries). LMIC indirect and estates costs must be included within the overall £60,000 limit (at 100% fEC) for applications under this highlight notice. Please note that as indirect costs can be claimed for overseas co-investigators it is not possible to request direct costs to cover basic office and facilities (e.g. library access etc.) and minor/day-to-day consumables (e.g. photocopying, telephone calls, etc.) although major additional research related costs (e.g. linked to specific research methods such as survey/fieldwork costs or development of project-specific digital resources) may be requested as direct costs where appropriate.

Where projects involve international co-investigators or the sub-contracting of significant elements of the funding or research delivery to international partners, it will be a condition of funding that the UK Research Organisation undertakes appropriate due diligence and financial assurance, taking into account the developmental stage of partnerships and proportionate to the levels of funding involved. A further condition will be that they ensure that the partner organisations have in place contextually appropriate procedures for addressing issues of gender, equalities, diversity and inclusion, research integrity, safeguarding, data protection, fraud prevention and compliance with the other standard terms and conditions of UKRI grants.

Capital or infrastructure expenditure (e.g. basic office/laboratory/accommodation furniture or equipment, building/site construction, maintenance or refurbishment work, etc.) is not an eligible cost under this call although additional costs incurred by existing facilities or infrastructures relating to their use as a part of the research or in the archiving of project-specific research data/outputs may be considered. Costs for equipment purchase under £10,000 will only be considered on an exceptional basis where significant use of equipment is required primarily or solely for the proposed networking activity and/or where this is more cost effective than other options such as hiring equipment.

Given the ODA focus of this call on LMIC countries, costs for overseas co-investigators in high income countries should be kept to a minimum and fully justified in terms of the unique capabilities which they will bring to the research which are not available within the UK or LMIC partner countries.

The balance of intellectual, impact and engagement, leadership and costs between high income countries and LMICs will be considered in the assessment of proposals, recognising that this may vary according to the specific nature, focus and context of research networks. Please ensure budget breakdowns between high income and LMIC researchers and partners are justified and appropriate in respect to the equitable partnership aims of this ODA funding scheme.

Costs may be included to support inclusive participation in research activities, for example in terms of translation costs or support for carers. These may be incurred by either the UK or LMIC partners as appropriate. Where possible accessible venues and facilities should be selected; please note that infrastructure costs cannot be requested for example to make structural alterations to venues for improved accessibility.

Funding for PhD or masters studentships cannot be included in networking awards. However, involvement of students and early career researchers in research activities and/or related training or capability building activities is encouraged and appropriate support costs (e.g. travel and

subsistence) can be included within proposals.

XI. Additional Guidance on Completing Applications under this Highlight Notice, including ODA Funding expectations

This highlight notice forms part of a programme of activities delivered by the AHRC, as a part of UKRI, and DCMS which form 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. Only research directly and primarily relevant to the problems of developing countries can be treated as ODA. Funding under this highlight notice must be awarded in a manner that fits with [Official ODA guidelines](#).

When assessing whether an activity is eligible for funding under this call, we will consider whether projects satisfy OECD criteria on eligibility. This will be done by assessing whether applications:

- aim to promote the welfare and economic development of a country or countries on the DAC list of ODA recipients
- are designed to address a development need, and
- focus on developing country problems.

As a part of their EOI applicants will be asked to explain how their proposed activity would fully meet the requirements of ODA funding. In full proposals applicants will be required to submit an ODA compliance statement outlined above, this will be expected to include information on intended beneficiaries and plans for achieving impact in low and/or middle income country contexts. UKRI has produced guidance on completing a statement on ODA compliance, which suggests that applicants use the questions below:

1. Which country/ 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.

[Please note the requirement to answer these questions does not supersede the need to discuss development impact throughout the full proposal including within the Case for Support. Where necessary please ensure that you request appropriately justified resources to support ODA-relevant impact activities.]

Where appropriate applicants are encouraged to refer to relevant global and/or regional national development policy or literatures or related global policy agendas (e.g. UNDP, UNESCO, World Bank, UNFCCC, UNDRR / Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, UN Sustainable Development agenda and the SDGs, ICOMOS, ICCROM, etc)

Letters of support are not required at the EOI stage. For full proposals the inclusion of letters of support from partners or collaborators in LMICs and/or development organisations can be helpful where these outline (from the partners or collaborators perspective) how the activities would address a development need that they have identified or that has been identified in relevant LMICs local contexts.. The letter of support should also outline how the partner or collaborator expects to benefit from collaboration with the network and/or why they believe the activities would be of benefit to the LMIC in local development contexts. As a minimum we would expect at least one letter of support from a non-academic LMIC or international development partner organisation. Where these letters are in languages other than English, a translation into English should be provided. However, we recognise that given the short timetable for preparing applications it may not be possible to secure letters of support from all partners. In some cases where letters of support are not provided, awards may be offered on condition that letters of support are provided.

Through this highlight notice the AHRC seeks to encourage co-development, deep engagement and

substantial, genuine, meaningful and equitable **collaboration with international/LMIC partners**. Examples of collaborating bodies might be: relevant development agencies; Non-governmental Organisations (NGOs); Civil Society Organisations (CSOs); industry and other private sector organisations; policy makers; cultural, heritage and creative organisations in LMICs; and other relevant local and international partners. The proposal should explain what expectations or plans there are (as appropriate to the proposal) regarding the long term legacy/sustainability/future development of the collaborations and/or benefits beyond the end of the project (if funded).

As a part of building equitable partnerships, applicants will be asked to outline their intended approach to the **sharing / ownership of intellectual property** in terms of cross-national and cross-organisational collaborative working, as well as related issues such as co-authorship and full acknowledgement of contributions to knowledge generation. In some cases, awards may be offered on condition that copies of proposed collaboration agreements are provided to the funders.

Full consideration should be given to the relevant **developing country context** (e.g. languages, cultures, faiths, public engagement, legal frameworks, political and regulatory systems) and ethical issues in the planning and conduct of research and implementation of an ethical innovation, and a 'do no harm' duty of care approach. This includes ensuring that appropriate safeguarding procedures are in place to protect participants, researchers' collaborators and data, especially where research may engage with vulnerable groups.

Where appropriate, full proposals should outline the languages that activities will be conducted in, and that outputs will be published in, and should justify this where appropriate.

Issues of accessibility, particularly in terms of issues of gender, equalities and diversity and for the poorest groups or marginalised communities, should be considered. This includes, for example, where participants may be in areas affected by low literacy levels or poor access to services/ technologies. UKRI has introduced a requirement for Gender Equalities Statements on all GCRF applications, in line with the International Development (Gender Equality) Act 2014. Full applications under this highlight notice will therefore be asked to give particular attention to issues of gender, equalities, diversity and inclusion and to consider whether any specific steps should be included to ensure that engagement and the distribution of the benefits from development impact activities are distributed as inclusively as possible, or indeed the potential need to target activities

towards groups at risk of exclusion. Where appropriate costs may be included within applications linked to supporting inclusive participation in activities and /or to tracking the extent to which activities are reaching communities at risk of inclusion.

Activities which support the development of capacity/capabilities in developing countries can be considered. Activities can also be considered where the impacts are expected to be realised in the longer as well as the short to medium term. In such cases inclusion of a clear longer-term theory of change is likely to be important, along with milestones for assessing whether progress (towards achieving this development strategy) is being made. In such cases consideration should be given to how the impacts and legacies might be sustained beyond the end of the grant.

Proposals under the highlight notice should move beyond broad aspirations to engage with relevant partners and provide evidence that engagement and consultation with relevant partners in LMICs/development organisations has taken place and/or is clearly planned into proposed work programme.

Applications which are relevant to international development challenges but which do not fully meet the requirements for ODA compliance (for example where addressing development challenges is a secondary rather than a primary focus or where the principal beneficiaries are outside LMICs or wider development contexts – notwithstanding the potential for reciprocal benefits and wider applicability of learning and outcomes), should not be submitted under the highlight notice.

Applications which are not ODA-compliant will not be accepted under the highlight notice. In some cases awards under the highlight notice may be recommended subject to revised or enhanced ODA-compliance statements being submitted.

XII. Contact Information

For queries about this call such as eligible activities and costs or remit of the call please contact AHRC at enquiries@ahrc.ukri.org or telephone: 01793 416060 (Monday to Friday 08:30–16:30).

For queries on using Je-S, such as creating and submitting the application form or Je-S account creation, please contact the Je-S Helpdesk on 01793 444164 or JeSHelp@je-s.ukri.org (Monday to Friday 08:30–17:00).

****End of Document****

Version 1.0