AHRC Global Challenges Research Fund
Network Plus Town Hall Meetings

#GCRF
@ahrcpress
@UKRI_News
GCRF Network Plus Town Hall Meeting

Introductory Remarks
Aims

• Set context and provide background
  • Fit within the wider GCRF Collective Programme
  • Part of interdisciplinary programme delivered by UKRI
  • Builds on extensive experiences of cross-council and cross-institutional working
• Overview of the research portfolio
  • Education and Conflict
  • Relevance to other GCRF portfolios in Global Health, Food Systems, Resilience and Sustainable Cities.
Aims (cont.)

- Explain the ambitions for the Network Plus scheme for international development
- Introduce Network Plus calls managed by AHRC
- Explain call mechanics in more detail
- Answer questions
- Provide platform for networking and exchange of ideas
Timetable for the town hall meetings

- 14 February 2019 - Birmingham
- 12 March 2019 - Edinburgh
UKRI GCRF Funding opportunities

Robert Felstead – Head of Policy and Planning
UKRI International Development team

Video ref: 10:30
Global Context: UN Sustainable Development Goals
UK Aid Strategy

- Strengthening global peace, security and governance
- Strengthening resilience and response to crises
- Promoting global prosperity
- Tackling extreme poverty and helping the world’s most vulnerable
Background to GCRF

- Address global challenges through disciplinary and interdisciplinary research
- Strengthening capability for research and innovation, within developing countries and the UK
- Agile response to emergencies and opportunities

Cutting edge research which addresses the problems faced by developing countries

2015 Government Spending Review Outcomes
GCRF Delivery Partners

The Academy of Medical Sciences
BRITISH ACADEMY
ROYAL ACADEMY OF ENGINEERING
Northern Ireland Executive
THE ROYAL SOCIETY
HEFCW
Scottish Funding Council
UK SPACE AGENCY

UK Research and Innovation
Countries of Focus of UKRI GCRF Awarded Projects

https://www.ukri.org/research/global-challenges-research-fund/funded-projects/
UK Research and Innovation have appointed 9 Challenge Leaders, directing GCRF portfolios in:

- Global Health
- Food Systems
- Conflict
- Resilience
- Education
- Sustainable Cities.

The GCRF Challenge Leaders are responsible for the building and success of individual GCRF challenge portfolios and together collectively responsible for maximising the portfolios’ overall research excellence and real-world impact. They will be charged with maximising the coherence and impact of each portfolio by working across the GCRF delivery partners.
# Challenge Leaders

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Challenge Leader</th>
<th>Portfolio</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Resilience</td>
<td>Resilience Challenge Leader</td>
<td>Professor Mark Pelling (King’s College London)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conflicts</td>
<td>Conflicts Challenge Leader</td>
<td>Dr Neelam Raina (Middlesex University)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cities</td>
<td>Cities Challenge Leader</td>
<td>Dr Jaideep Gupte (Institute of Development Studies)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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<tr>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Food Systems</td>
<td>Food Systems Challenge Leader</td>
<td>Professor Nicola Lowe (University of Central Lancashire)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>Education Challenge Leader</td>
<td>Dr Kelsey Shanks (Ulster University UNESCO Centre)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global Health</td>
<td>Global Health Challenge Leader</td>
<td>Dr Helen Fletcher (London School of Hygiene &amp; Tropical Medicine)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## UK Research and Innovation
The Collective Programme
Growing Research Capability

37 strategic programmes to grow research capability to meet the challenges faced by developing countries:

- Strengthen research capacity and capability, building skills across career stages in both the UK and developing countries.
- Build strong and enduring relationships between UK research organisations and research organisations and other partners in developing countries.
- Deliver research outcomes with the potential for significant impact on the welfare and economic development of developing countries.
- Increase the engagement of the UK research community with international development challenges.
Interdisciplinary Research Hubs

- UKRI GCRF Achievement for Africa’s Adolescents Hub
- UKRI GCRF Accountability for Informal Urban Equity Hub
- UKRI GCRF Action Against Stunting
- UKRI GCRF Gender, Justice and Security Hub
- UKRI GCRF Living Deltas Hub
- UKRI GCRF One Health Poultry Hub
- UKRI GCRF One Ocean Hub
- UKRI GCRF South Asian Nitrogen Hub
- UKRI GCRF South-South Migration, Inequality and Development Hub
- UKRI GCRF Trade, Development and the Environment Hub
- UKRI GCRF Urban Disaster Risk Hub
- UKRI GCRF Water Security and Sustainable Development Hub

https://www.ukri.org/news/global-research-hubs/
Interdisciplinary Research Hubs

**Global reach of the Hubs**

**KEY FACTS**
- 12 global interdisciplinary research Hubs
- 85 countries
- 550 researchers
- 400 unique partner organisations
- £200M investment*

This map shows the number of unique organisations that are our partners on the 12 Hubs. Also the regions they are based in.

https://www.ukri.org/news/global-research-hubs/
And now...

UKRI GCRF Collective Programme

• A series of calls designed to enhance the overall impact across the six strategic GCRF Challenge portfolios:
  • Global Health
  • Food Systems
  • Security (Protracted Conflict, Refugee Crises and Forced Displacement)
  • Education
  • Resilience to Environmental Shocks and Change
  • Cities and Sustainable Infrastructure

• The programme is an interdisciplinary programme delivered by UK Research and Innovation and steered by the GCRF Challenge Leaders.

• Calls launching between January and June 2019.

[Website Link: www.ukri.org/research/global-challenges-research-fund/gcrf-collective-programme/]
UKRI GCRF Collective Programme

Cities and Sustainable Infrastructure

- GCRF (Re)thinking the off-grid city
- GCRF Sustainable energy and international development: beyond technology

Education

- GCRF Education as a driver of sustainable development Network Plus
- GCRF Education in conflict and crisis research
- GCRF Early Child Education

Food Systems

- GCRF Cultures, behaviours and histories of agriculture, food, and nutrition
- GCRF A combined Food Systems approach to developing interventions to address the Double Burden of Malnutrition
UKRI GCRF Collective Programme

**Global Health**
- GCRF Health and Context

**Resilience to Environmental Shocks and Change**
- GCRF Equitable Resilience: ensuring resilience enhances the Sustainable Development Goals
- GCRF Multiple and systemic Risks

**Security (Protracted Conflict, Refugee Crises and Forced Displacement)**
- GCRF Development-based approaches to Protracted Displacement
- GCRF Preventing Conflict, Building Sustainable and Inclusive Peace
- GCRF Protection in Contexts of Conflict and Displacement

**Cross-cutting**
- GCRF Global Engagement Networks
- GCRF Coherence Grants
- GCRF Gender and Intersectionality Network Plus
The Future of GCRF?

- HMG Spending Review in 2019
- Collecting GCRF Case Studies
- Project to gather pre-Newton/GCRF impacts from research for development
Key Principles
Challenge and impact focus

- Generate excellent and novel research
- Translate research into measurable development impacts
- Deliver a broad range of scalable impacts
- A sustainable programme with a legacy beyond the initial investment
Interdisciplinary working

GCRF and particularly the Collective Fund is an excellent opportunity.

Creating a successful partnership involves:
• Identifying the right mix of disciplines
• Co-creation of a common vision and goals
• Defining a joint approach
• Positive leadership
• Identifying a method for dealing with disagreements/conflicts

Finding and Building Effective Partnerships:
www.ukcdfs.org/resources
http://pei.exchange
Global partnerships

- Co-development with international partners
- Substantial, genuine and meaningful collaboration/engagement
- Full consideration of relevant developing country context
Equitable partnerships with developing-country researchers to:

- Identify research gaps and needs
- Co-create research questions and research outcomes
- Test solutions to actual problems
- Build research capacity in the UK and developing countries to do research for development
Impact through partnership with non-Research Organisations

Working with NGOs, CSOs, governmental agencies, multinational bodies, and others to:

• Identify development needs
• Test potential – and potential limitations – of research outcomes on real-world problems
• Co-design real-world implementation of solutions
• Input into policy
Organisation and leadership

• Shared values and goals
• Strong research and operational leadership
• Appropriate and effective monitoring and evaluation
• Ability to learn and adapt
Hints and tips
Call rules and policies

- Please read the guidance
- Rules are being ‘harmonised’ across UKRI so may be different from previous calls
General observations – previous GCRF activities

• Learn from others!

• Proposals need to be ODA challenge-led/solution-focused

• Applicants need to demonstrate an understanding of the context (societal, cultural, political, historical, economic etc.)

• Don’t play disciplinary bingo

• In-country partners need to be appropriate, involved in the scoping and delivery of the research and add value
General observations – previous GCRF activities (cont.)

• You will be assessed based on what’s on the page – the panel/reviewers won’t make any assumptions!

• Panels are often broad
  • interdisciplinary, international, non-academics/users
  • not everyone around the table will be an expert in your field

• Be clear and realistic about the potential impact – we’re not expecting you to solve global poverty in a single grant!
  • Impacts must be directly associated with this grant
  • What are the milestones.steps along the way?
  • What impacts are anticipated during the lifetime of the award?
  • What are the benefits beyond the lifetime of the grant?
Is it Official Development Assistance?

GCRF is based on the broad OECD ODA definition.

1. 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?

2. How is your proposal directly and primarily relevant to the development challenges of these countries?

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?
ODA compliance statement

This is not just a box ticking exercise – proposals must demonstrate they are ‘in the spirit of ODA’

- Investigate a **specific problem** and seek **specific outcomes** which will have a **targeted impact** on the relevant developing country(ies);

- Identify **country specific challenges/sub-challenges** and provide evidence as to **why this is a problem** for the specific developing country(ies);

- Address the issue identified effectively and efficiently, working **in collaboration** with others as appropriate;

- Identify **appropriate pathways to impact** taking into consideration the **local context** to ensure that the developing country benefits from the research.
Promoting equitable partnerships

- Fairness, transparency, mutual responsibility, mutual benefit - maximise benefits and mitigate risks

✓ Joint agenda setting - mutual agreement on meaning and purpose of the work
✓ Clarity of roles and responsibilities
✓ Fair recognition of interests and incentives of all partners
✓ Build mutual trust – transparency and accountability (decision making and budgets)
✓ Regular communication – avoid assumptions
✓ Invest time in the partnership – building relationships is a long term process – build time into the project and request funds for face to face meetings
✓ Regular reviews of health of the partnership
✓ Develop an agreed dispute resolution process
Guidelines and toolkits

  [https://naturalsciences.ch/organisations/kfpe/11_principles_7_questions](https://naturalsciences.ch/organisations/kfpe/11_principles_7_questions)

- Research for development impact: The role of equitable partnerships [https://www.espa.ac.uk/](https://www.espa.ac.uk/)

- Rethinking Research Partnerships: Discussion Guide and Toolkit
  [https://rethinkingresearchpartnerships.com/](https://rethinkingresearchpartnerships.com/)

- Partnership Assessment Toolkit
Check the specific call documentation about Principal and Co-Investigator eligibility.

Entering applicants
• All Principal and Co-Investigators must have a fully registered ‘Research Proposal’ type Je-S account
• Please ensure that you submit any account requests as soon as possible.

Contact Je-S helpdesk for technical queries
• JeSHelp@rcuk.ac.uk
• 01793 444164
Pathways to Impact

Should:

• provide timelines and milestones for grant specific activities
• identify a breadth of significant and measurable impacts
• demonstrate understanding of the societal and cultural context of the research
• outline the approaches taken to ensure sustainability and potential for legacy beyond the initial investment
Advice of a DFID country adviser: partner, engage, represent

- Seek to create strong partnerships. In country researchers are likely to understand the problem; the political economy and opportunities for impact; they may have greater access.
- Engage policy makers in country, but use their time wisely.
- Engage with national processes & routine meetings for discussions on policy change; avoid stand alone meetings where possible.
- Represent robust research and evidence relating to the challenge(s); don’t lobby.
  - Draw on the wider body of evidence.
  - Do the research conclusions pass real-world feasibility testing?
  - What would be the cost benefit of implementing change?
Consider developing your own checklist:
• Stakeholder engagement
• Capacity building
• Communicating
• Monitoring and evaluation

www.gov.uk/government/publications/research-uptake-guidance
Considering your options

Bear in mind…

• Your area of research may not appear in the title!
• Remits may be broader than remit of the administering Research Council
• Different calls will support different types of grants
• These are not the only GCRF/ODA opportunities!

www.ukri.org/research/global-challenges-research-fund/
www.newtonfund.ac.uk/
Questions?

gcrf@rcuk.ac.uk

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Head of Policy and Planning
01793 444257

JeSHelp@rcuk.ac.uk
01793 444164
Education in Conflict and Crisis Research

UKRI GCRF Challenge Leaders: Dr. Kelsey Shanks
Global Context:
UN Sustainable Development Goals

1. No Poverty
2. Zero Hunger
3. Good Health and Well-Being
4. Quality Education
5. Gender Equality
6. Clean Water and Sanitation
7. Affordable and Clean Energy
8. Decent Work and Economic Growth
9. Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure
10. Reduced Inequalities
11. Sustainable Cities and Communities
12. Responsible Consumption and Production
13. Climate Action
14. Life Below Water
15. Life on Land
16. Peace and Justice, Strong Institutions
17. Partnerships for the Goals
UK Official Development Assistance Strategy

- Strengthening global peace, security and governance
- Strengthening resilience and response to crises
- Promoting global prosperity
- Tackling extreme poverty and helping the world’s most vulnerable
Education Portfolio
Table 1: Education Portfolios Intersection with other Challenge Areas
Growing capability to meet the needs of developing countries
Alignment with GCRF Strategic themes

Number of awards

Food: ~14
Health: ~20
Education: ~1
Clean Air: ~4
Energy: ~4
Sustainable Livelihoods: ~7
Environmental Change: ~8
Cities: ~3
Sustainable Production: ~3
Forced Displacement: ~1
Conflict: ~1
Poverty and Gender: ~7
GCRF Collective Programme
UKRI GCRF Collective Programme

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- Calls launching between January and June 2019.
UKRI GCRF Collective Programme

Education

• GCRF Education in conflict and crisis research

• GCRF Education as a driver of sustainable development Network Plus

• GCRF Education Interventions for Early Childhood Development
GCRF Education in conflict and crisis research
GCRF: Fund Level Assessment Criteria

- **Research Excellence**
  new approaches not constrained by traditional methodologies or disciplinary silos

- **Official Development Assistance (ODA) compliance**
  OECD guidelines

- **Equitable Partnerships and Building Capacity**
  strong and enduring partnerships between UK and developing-country researchers to enhance the research and innovation capacity of both

- **Impact: Problem and Solution Focused**
  substantial impact on improved social welfare, economic development, and environmental sustainability
What is GCRF looking for?

- Proposals need to be ODA challenge-led/solution-focused - compliance statements need to be focused on and specific to the partner/target countries.
- Applicants need to demonstrate an deep understanding of the context (societal, cultural, political, historical, economic etc.).
- In-country partners need to be appropriate, involved in the scoping and delivery of the research, and add value.
- Support adaptability and resilience by focusing on key competencies/expertise required rather than specific work streams and staff.
- Be clear and realistic about the potential impact:
  - Directly associated with this grant
  - What are the benefits beyond the lifetime of the grant?
Interdisciplinary research excellence

- Excellent research capacity
- Capacity to think across, between, within SDGs
- Assemble new knowledge and insights across different research communities
- Strategically build on previous investments

Image: British Academies
Equitable partnerships with developing-country researchers to:

- Identify research gaps and needs
- Co-create research questions and research outcomes
- Test solutions to actual problems
- Build research capacity in the UK and developing countries to do research for development
Guidelines and toolkits

  https://naturalsciences.ch/organisations/kfpe/11_principles_7_questions
- Research for development impact: The role of equitable partnerships
  https://www.espa.ac.uk/
- Rethinking Research Partnerships: Discussion Guide and Toolkit
  https://rethinkingresearchpartnerships.com/
- Partnership Assessment Toolkit
  http://www.ccghr.ca/resources/partnerships-and-networking/partnership-assessment-tool/
Expand the existing understanding of research ethics. Consider:

- Duty of Care to Research Participants
- Duty of care to Research Partners
- Understanding the local implications of your project
Questions?

For any queries or comments about the AHRC managed UKRI GCRF calls, please email: gcrf@ahrc.ukri.org
Security, Protracted Conflict, Refugee Crises and Forced Displacement Portfolio

UKRI GCRF Challenge Leaders: Dr. Neelam Raina, Dr. Laura Hammond.

Video ref: 51:08 (presented by Tim Pank)
Countries of Focus on GCRF Funded Projects trying to Reduce Conflict and Respond Effectively to Forced Displacement

- Reduce conflict and promote peace, justice and humanitarian action
- Understand and respond effectively to forced displacement and multiple refugee crises
The GCRF currently funds 72 projects in 116 countries that are related to conflict and displacement (50 of these are on conflict, and 27 are on displacement – with some overlap between the two themes).

Awards range in size from less than £50,000 to more than £4 million, and support researchers at all stages of career development.

Partnerships with:
- UN, Salzburg Global Seminar, Musicians without Borders, ActionAid, The South African Holocaust Foundation, Rwanda Cinema Centre, Gulu University, Azerbaijan Diplomatic Academy etc.
Major Investments

- **GCRF RELIEF Centre** (£4m) – examining how Syrian refugees participate in everyday life
- **ESRC-AHRC Forced Displacement Programme** (£3.5m)
- **Urgency Grants on Mediterranean Migration** (£1m) looked at the experiences of refugees in a relatively small number of developing countries and of refugees entering Europe through the Mediterranean
Major Investments

- **AHRC Diaspora’s, Migration and Identities Programme** (5 years, 6 million, large and small research grants, networks, workshops and postgrad activities)
- **Translating Cultures Programme** (£1.5m on Researching Multilingualism at the Borders of Language, the Body, Law and the State)
- **PaCCS AHRC-ESRC Conflict Large Grants** (£2.4m on Displacement-related grants)
- **ESRC-NordForsk Programme on Migration and Integration** (£6 million, Europe-based)
Collective Programme - Funding Opportunities

- Preventing Conflict, Building Sustainable and Inclusive Peace – managed by AHRC
- Protection in Contexts of Conflict and Displacement – managed by AHRC
- Development-based approaches to Protracted Displacement – managed by ESRC
Preventing Conflict, Building Sustainable and Inclusive Peace

• This call seeks to support actionable research which brings together knowledge to further our understanding of human interactions in contexts of protracted conflicts and also within emerging fragile conflict affected areas. It aims to develop a deeper and more nuanced understanding of conflict and prevention of violence, including the role of Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) and local actors, and to build the evidence base for policy and practice on the effectiveness of different approaches and strategies. A further aim is to identify the societal factors which are critical for building sustainable peace and to develop strategies which communities can use to build lasting peace, including addressing the issues of reconciliation.
Protection in Contexts of Conflict and Displacement

• By focusing on the risks faced by those affected by conflict, and what can be done to avoid and mitigate against them, this call directly addresses Goal 16 of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which is dedicated to the promotion of peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, the provision of access to justice for all, and building effective, accountable institutions at all levels. It has the potential to intersect with the SDGs relating to poverty, hunger, health and well-being, education and gender inequality, among others.
Development-based approaches to Protracted Displacement

There is a need to look holistically at the multidimensional challenges affecting refugees, stateless persons, internally displaced people, migrants and those affected by protracted displacement in sending, transit and receiving societies. In particular the problems associated with protracted displacement - often including encampment, lack of access to education, vocational training, employment, healthcare, documentation, and other essential resources- are major challenges that affect the majority of the world’s refugees and Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) and may constrain host countries’ abilities to meet their Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
Key Components:

- Challenge-led disciplinary and interdisciplinary research
- Strengthening capacity for research and innovation within both the UK and developing countries
- Providing an agile response to emergencies where there is an urgent research need.
Wider Funding Landscape

- **Gender and Intersectionality Network Plus** – managed by ESRC

- **GCRF Coherence Grants** – managed by UKRI

- Further programmes for funding on Conflict/Displacement with DfID and British Academy coming shortly.
Queries

For any queries or comments about the AHRC managed UKRI GCRF calls, please email: gcrf@ahrc.ukri.org or enquiries@ahrc.ukri.org

For Displacement calls email displacement@esrc.ukri.org

The Collective programme and all the calls from the 6 portfolios can be found here https://www.ukri.org/research/global-challenges-research-fund/gcrf-collective-programme/
The Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF) and Interdisciplinarity

GCRF Network Plus Town Meeting
Gary Grubb
Associate Director of Programmes, AHRC, UKRI
Gary.Grubb@ahrc.ukri.org

Video ref: 1:00:02
Building on Inter-disciplinary Portfolios

• All collective programme calls encourage inter-disciplinarity and are open to applications across UKRI remits, whichever Council is leading the call.
• Part of GCRF’s distinctiveness is the potential for radical inter-disciplinary research drawing across the entire research base
• GCRF collective calls encouraging inter-disciplinarity e.g. Growing Capability and Hubs calls
• Focus around SDGs & their intersections which require inter-disciplinary approaches
Building on Inter-disciplinary Portfolios

• AHRC GCRF portfolio over 200 Projects:
  - Cross-disciplinary open Networking (including education in conflict highlight notice), Follow-on and other AHRC calls e.g. translating cultures/ care for the future)
  - Large numbers in the conflict/ forced displacement / education portfolio areas & AHRC support for these Challenge Leaders
  - 5 larger Area-Focused focused Network Plus
Building on Inter-disciplinary Portfolios

Newton Fund Partnership calls:

- E.g. Columbia call (2017) related to post-conflict transitions in Colombia under three main themes: participation and inclusion, working towards reconciliation, and education for peacebuilding.

- E.g. An inter-disciplinary project ‘Documenting the past for a more peaceful future’ jointly funded by the AHRC and the National Commission for Scientific & Technological Research in Chile (CONICYT) won chair’s award in 2018 Newton Prize, (caption shows project researchers Professor Vikki Bell, Professor of Sociology at Goldsmiths, University of London, and Dr Oriana Bernasconi, Associate Professor, Department of Sociology, Alberto Hurtado University, Chile)
Building on Inter-disciplinary Portfolios: AHRC Area-Focused Network Plus awards

e.g. Changing the Story: Asking how the arts, heritage, and human rights education can support youth-centred approaches to civil society building in Cambodia, Colombia, Kosovo, Rwanda and South Africa.

- crossing a broad range of disciplines (including languages and cultural studies, arts practice, film, history, post-colonial studies, cultural policy, anthropology, social policy, development studies, education and law)
- adopting quantitative and qualitative, co-production and action-research methodologies
- collaborative project between universities, INGOs, artists, grassroots civil society organisations and young people
Building on Inter-disciplinary Portfolios: AHRC Area-Focused Network Plus awards

e.g. Global Research Network on Parliaments & People

- Bringing together arts and humanities & social sciences: “we want to demonstrate the value of the arts and humanities by giving a lot of thought to multi-disciplinary research in a way that doesn’t just bolt things together; that incorporates co-design right from the beginning.” Prof Emma Crewe PI

- Create opportunities for scholars in extremely politically fragile states, especially Ethiopia and Myanmar, to undertake research on democracy, public engagement, and the political participation of marginalised groups in society.

- Developing a truly global research network, which gives equal credence and space to the voices, experiences, expertise and perspectives of all scholars interested in the relationships between parliaments, politicians and people.
Portfolio: Global Reach (AHRC Example)

Map of the LMIC beneficiary countries highlighted within AHRC GCRF & Newton award summaries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of Awards</th>
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<tr>
<td>FEWEST</td>
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232 AWARDS

90 DAC COUNTRIES
Portfolio Regional breakdowns (AHRC Example)

Analysis of 90 DAC partner countries by region

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>HOW MANY DAC COUNTRIES ARE THERE BY REGION?</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sub-Saharan Africa</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Southern Asia</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South/Latin America</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle East and North Africa</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central Asia</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caribbean/Atlantic</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asia-Pacific</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>HOW MANY COUNTRIES ARE THERE BY DAC CATEGORY?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Least Developed Country</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper Middle Income Country or Territory</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower Middle Income Country or Territory</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Low Income Country</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Cross-Council Approaches GCRF Challenge Areas (AHRC Portfolio example)
Cross-Disciplinary Research (AHRC example)

**Disciplines**

152 AHRC ODA awards are classified with a Primary Top Level Classification. Of these, 85% are considered INTERDISCIPLINARY.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Discipline</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Development studies</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cultural &amp; museum studies</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Languages &amp; Literature</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Area Studies</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Design</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Visual arts</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Archaeology</td>
<td>7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Human Geography</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Linguistics</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pol. sci. &amp; internat. studies</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Medical &amp; health interface</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social anthropology</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drama &amp; theatre studies</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Law &amp; legal studies</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>Library &amp; information studies</td>
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<td>Science and Technology Studies</td>
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Cultural Context

• All of the three calls emphasise research which is grounded in LMIC cultural contexts, including language, history, values, beliefs, etc. Such contextual knowledge may be distributed across a range of research disciplines.

• Many policy and technical / technology/ evidence-based development interventions have failed, and continue to fail, because they have not taken into account vital national and local social, cultural and historical contexts and not worked closely with the people and societies they are intended to benefit. Development policy will work best if knowledge is brought together internationally, across disciplines and with non-academic partners, institutions and local communities to co-create sustainable and culturally appropriate solutions.

• Particularly important in these three calls all of which involve working in complex fragile or conflict/ crisis affected / contested contexts
Collaboration, equalities and Inclusion

• Calls emphasise research which is internationally collaborative, supports equitable partnerships, works with local knowledges, partners and assets, is co-designed / co-produced & deploys engaged, community-centred approaches

• Inter-disciplinary and internationally collaborative teams are more likely to bring together the range of expertise, experience and approaches required to mobilise global voices, translate across languages and cultures, learn from local knowledges and heritages, take advantage of local cultural assets/ social capital and find creative ways to engage, represent and communicate the experiences and aspirations of diverse communities, including the voices and experiences of groups most affected by, and vulnerable to, development challenges.

• Given specific research contexts teams may need to draw in specialist research expertise on addressing issues such as Gender, Equalities, Diversity and Inclusion, ethics, protection of vulnerable groups, local legal/ governance systems, as well as critical perspectives or to consider potential unintended consequences
Network Plus Model

- Network plus model designed to be open and to facilitate broad cross-disciplinary engagement (within network, open calls etc)
- Evolution and co-production of research agendas which may require bringing in additional expertise across disciplines as Networks evolve
- Potential for flexibility and adaptability given risks of conducting research in contexts affected by fragility/ conflict/ protracted crises
- No ‘one-size fits all’ model of inter-disciplinarity - this will vary to align with specific research contexts and challenges.
- Meaningful deep inter-disciplinary research engagement, dialogue and challenge throughout the research process preferred to ‘disciplinary window dressing’, ‘collecting very large numbers of disciplines’ or narrow use of disciplines (e.g. narrow use of arts as ‘end of pipe’ creative ways to ‘disseminate’ results to public audiences).
Introduction to the AHRC-Led Network Plus Calls

GCRF Network Plus Town Meeting
Gary Grubb
Associate Director of Programmes, AHRC, UKRI
Gary.Grubb@ahrc.ukri.org

Video ref: 1:14:57
AHRC-led Network Plus Calls

3 calls at the interface between the Security, Protracted Conflict, Refugee Crises and Forced Displacement portfolio & other Portfolios, including one joint with Education Portfolio:
- Education in conflict and crisis research
- Protection in Contexts of Conflict and Displacement
- Preventing Conflict, Building Sustainable and Inclusive Peace

- Complement other Collective Programme funding calls (e.g. Development based approaches to Protracted Displacement)
- All 3 three calls using the same Network Plus funding model
- Network Plus calls complement other programme activities, some being led by other delivery partners (e.g. BA) or other partners e.g. DFID
AHRC-led Network Plus Calls

- Complement / add value to / address ‘gaps’ in existing GCRF portfolios
- Calls build on UKRI global engagement activities, engagement with UK & international partners / policy-makers e.g. UNDP, DFID etc.
- Agendas broad to allow co-design with LMIC partners
- Attention to cultural, historical (etc.) context a common consideration
- 3-5 Network Plus awards under each of the three calls
- Funded Network Plus awards expected to work together as a cohort, with Challenge Leaders and with relevant activities in the wilder portfolios.
Build evidence to “enhance access of children and learners affected by conflict and protracted crises to better quality education.”

Call developed in collaboration with DFID & BA, as well as other Councils

Exemplar themes:

- education delivery, access and quality
- innovations in service re-design, digital and other technologies
- role of education in building future peace and stability
- understanding the interacting dynamics in the social, political, economic and cultural context
Cross-Cutting aims:

- building in-country research capacity
- diversifying and amplifying local voices
- strengthening the Education in Conflict and Crisis research community globally (incl. ECRs, cross-disciplinarity)
- building evidence that will inform policy and practice
Protection in Contexts of Conflict and Displacement

Strengthen “evidence base on humanitarian protection of people affected by conflict, with an emphasis on the protection of the most vulnerable”

Call developed in partnership with DfID

Exemplar themes:

• social, political, economic and cultural factors that are conducive to restraint
• understanding the impact of local protection mechanisms
• impact of legal recognition
• role of targeting
• changing dynamics of protection in protracted conflicts
• protection risks associated with South-South displacement
Protection in Contexts of Conflict and Displacement

Cross-cutting considerations include:

- Deep understanding of protection contexts developed collaboratively with LMIC partners
- A focus on the protection of the most vulnerable is encouraged
- Potential for ‘South to South’ capability development, comparative perspectives / learning
- Portfolio addressing a range of humanitarian / geographical / cultural contexts
- Knowledge exchange expected to lead to policy/ practice relevant outcomes
Preventing Conflict, Building Sustainable and Inclusive Peace

“strengthening the evidence base for effective policies and programmes that promote conflict prevention, and enhance positive peacebuilding”

Call developed in collaboration with BA as well as other Councils

Exemplar themes:

- Risk-based approaches
- People and community-centred approaches and building societal prevention capabilities
- Addressing grievances, access to justice and understanding agency
- Tackling horizontal inequalities
Preventing Conflict, Building Sustainable and Inclusive Peace

Cross-cutting issues:

- nuanced, contextualised, pathways to peace and emerging localised solution-driven initiatives
- developing better indicators and methodologies for understanding and monitoring success
- critical appraisal and learning from the past
- sharing of learning and translation from the local to the global, testing scalability & transferability, including between diverse conflict, cultural and language contexts
- fostering inter-connections & integration, exploiting synergies, understanding how approaches and initiatives work in combination, avoiding misalignment or unintended consequences
- maximising the impact of research that is co-designed and builds on community based partnerships and localised expertise on preventing conflict and building stability
Building Civil Society with and for Young People in Post-Conflict Settings

Video ref: 1:33:47

www.changingthestory.leeds.ac.uk
Building Civil Society through Participatory Arts

SOME OF THE PROJECTS WE'VE BEEN INVOLVED IN

click

www.changingthestory.leeds.ac.uk
"BEING TRUSTED WITH A CAMERA CHANGED EVERYTHING FOR ME"

/ OGGI TOMIC (SARAJEVO) /
To evaluate present, and inform future, practice of civil society organisations working with young people in ‘post-conflict’ settings, in order to build strong institutions that can support communities to deliver sustained social justice.
WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

1. Supporting CSOs to reflect on and share their practice in new ways.

2. Adopting a ‘situated’ approach rooted in Arts and Humanities approaches to critical reflection.
PROJECT OVERVIEW

Critical review of literature & practice in the 5 case-study contexts

10 ECR-led projects commissioned

Dissemination event series to impact wider policy and practice

5 proof of concept projects developed by core team

5 further larger-scale projects produced
CHANGING THE STORY
Phase 1 Projects

KOSOVO
Arts, critical thinking & active citizenship

CAMBODIA
Anlong Veng Peace Tours

COLOMBIA
Tales (or narratives) of the future

SOUTH AFRICA
The Changemakers

RWANDA
Mobile Arts for Peace
CHANGING THE STORY
Building inclusive civil societies with, and for, young people in post-conflict settings

OUR FIRST YEAR

"Before we came here, we thought [the genocidal] was not true... I will share this finding with my students, my friends and my neighbours." - Anlong Veng Peace Tours Participant, Cambodia

What's distinctive about Changing the Story [is that] we're not just looking for NGOs to be dissemination partners, or engagement partners, or policy partners. We're looking for NGOs and Civil Society Organisations to be knowledge creation partners. - Emily Morrison, Global Research Manager, British Council

Creative curriculum
designed by our MAF project
validated by Rwandan Board of Education

Early career researcher workshop participant

"I'm not sure I will ever look at my discipline the same way again - a very meaningful experience."

14 steering group members
78 partnerships
6,000 individual website users
135,000 youtube & video audiences
170 conference attendees
146 in-country workshop participants
7 countries with activity
106 ECR workshop applications
457 audiences, partners, participants

Numerous and award winning artistic outputs building awareness with global audience

CTS methodologies incorporated into a new project led by British Council and UoL in Lebanon

14 open access online resources
1 national curriculum toolkit
3 working papers
28 co-edited book approved for publication

 Outputs

14 artistic outputs
25 networking events
3 international workshops
48 engagement activities

Further Funding

£1.13M
GCRF learning network
£1.13M
Further funding for related projects in CDA countries
£150K
for current in-country activities
£150K
to fund 3 PhD students

Published Jan 2019  @Changing_Story_  changingthestory.leeds.ac.uk
Putting the Project Together

- AHRC Town Hall meetings.
- Believing the call guidance.
- Asking for help.
- The pitfalls of designing a project 'by committee'.
- Getting the ‘elevator’ pitch right.
• Being ambitious but realistic.

• Don’t underestimate the amount of project support you’ll need.

• A good project manager is worth their weight in gold

• Make sure you configure the role to allow you to do the interesting stuff too.
DEVELOPING A THEORY OF CHANGE AS A 'LIVING DOCUMENT'
STAKEHOLDER MAPPING

SHAPING POLICY AT ALL LEVELS

INTERNATIONAL CENTRES OF TRANSITIONAL JUSTICE
TRANSNATIONAL NGOs
BRITISH COUNCIL
UN BODIES (AT ALL LEVELS)
WORLD BANK
TRIBUNALS
LOCAL LEVEL
SCHOOLS
NON-STATE ACTORS & GROUPS
CSOs (IDENTIFIED CULTURAL ORGS BUT ALSO OTHER CSOs LIKE RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS)
COMMUNITY GATEKEEPERS
INDIGENOUS POPULATIONS
YOUNG PEOPLE
FAMILIES & LOCAL COMMUNITY OF YP
MINORITIES - MIGRANTS/VULNERABLE/DISPLACED COMMUNITIES
UK DEVELOPMENT
UK ARTS (YOUTH ORGS)
DFID
GCRF
RCUK ETC.
TRANSNATIONAL
NATIONAL/ POLICY
MINISTRIES (EDUCATION / HEALTH ETC.)
TEACHER ORGANISATIONS
DEVELOPMENT AGENCIES
RESEARCH FOCUSED ORGS (THINK TANKS ETC.)
NATIONAL CULTURAL ORGANISATIONS
UNIVERSITIES
ARMS-LENGTH ORGS (LIKE BRITISH COUNCIL)
MEDIA
REGIONAL LEVEL
EUROPEAN UNION
LOBBY GROUPS
GROUPS FOR ECONOMIC & SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT
REGIONAL CSOs
REGIONAL PEACE PROCESS ORGANISATIONS
FINDING CONNECTIONS & THEMES ACROSS LEVELS
**REPORTING & COMMS**

**STEERING GROUP**
Every 6 months (financial & update report)

**CO-I NETWORK MEETINGS**
Every 3-6 months (UK or international).
Update presentations and documents.

**PI TO COUNTRY CO-I CATCH UPS**
Once a month/whenever necessary

**CO-I TO PROJECT PARTNERS**
Regular contact

**RF DATA**
Team in regular contact. 6 monthly reminders
MONITORING AND EVALUATION

- One of our research aims to explore how to do this sort of research.
- Need a good plan for M&E but also need to reflect on this throughout
OUR PRIORITY

Understanding how our partners work

Why?

- Differences across projects
- Avoiding top-down evaluation methodologies
- Ensuring methods are context appropriate
- Find common ground and ensure responsible accountability

Lessons learned

- Resistance to 'measuring'
- Practical barriers to collecting data
- Disciplines have different approaches
- Existing methodologies
- Learning from other’s approaches
- Administrative delays affect everything
NEXT STEPS:
What do we want to know?

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<tr>
<th>Research questions</th>
<th>Project Process</th>
<th>Meaningful change</th>
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<tr>
<td>Phase 1</td>
<td>CSO Perceptions &amp; Practices</td>
<td>Young People (YP) involved in PoCs</td>
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<td>Phase 2</td>
<td>Breadth/Quality/Accessibility of applications</td>
<td>All Phase 1 markers</td>
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<td>Phase 3</td>
<td>Stakeholders/Policy Impact</td>
<td>Wider CSO sector</td>
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• This takes time

• These project have lots of moving parts
• Due Diligence
• Contracts
• Giving money away is tricky!
Arts and Humanities Research for Global Development

Stuart Taberner and Paul Cooke
University of Leeds
New project to consolidate and champion learning from Arts and Humanities research across the Global Challenges Research Fund portfolio,
Call Mechanism: Network Plus

Dr Ian Stanton, Strategic Lead, Languages, Literature and Area Studies

AHRC UKRI

Video ref: 2:10:10 (presented by Tim Pank)
Network Plus Model – High level

• The Network Plus funding model is a flexible mechanism whereby funding will be allocated to the lead Research Organisation to support a cross-institutional leadership team and international and non-academic partners.

• Facilitate the development of partnerships between academics, NGOs, policymakers and practitioners in both the Global North and South, allowing for integrated and crosscutting activities. They will be a source of robust evidence that informs debate and feeds into policy and practice.
Over £9M of GCRF funding across five major interdisciplinary networks using the AHRC’s ‘Network Plus’ model. Designed to bring together a wide range of UK arts and humanities research expertise with scholars and non-academic partners in low- and middle-income countries.

- **Changing the Story**: Helping young people whose lives have been affected by conflict; the project showcases how the arts and humanities can help those in need.
- ‘**Anti-Slavery Knowledge Network**’: Supports and shares leading research about human enslavement and its legacies.
- **Global Research Network on Parliaments and People**: Investigates the vital role arts and humanities play in strengthening democracy internationally.
- **Rising from the Depths**: Studies marine cultural heritage along the coast of east Africa in Kenya, Tanzania, Mozambique and Madagascar.
- **The Nahrein Network**: A historical project that aims to prove the value of the arts and humanities to education and post-conflict development in Iraq and neighbouring countries.

[https://ahrc.ukri.org/innovation/network-plus/](https://ahrc.ukri.org/innovation/network-plus/)
Network Plus: Proposals

• Funding of £1.5-2 million is available for each Network Plus award on a full economic cost basis (fEC)

• Up to 48 months in duration

• Projects are expected to start on 1 April 2020

• It is anticipate that between 3 and 5 Network Plus awards under each of the three calls will be awarded
Network Plus: Who Can Apply

• Applications are welcomed from UK Higher Education Institutions, or UKRI-accredited Independent Research Organisations.

• Proposals must be collaborative and include both relevant expertise drawn from across the UK research base (a minimum of 2 eligible UK ROs) as well as relevant parties in partner countries and the third sector etc.

• International Co-Investigators are eligible for funding through this call in accordance with AHRC’s international Co-Investigator policy. However, there is some further flexibility and provision available in respect of such costs.
Network Plus Model: Aims

• To generate new, ambitious, collaborative research

• Engage extensively with ROs & stakeholders in partner countries / areas & with wider partners (NGOs, cultural organisations, community groups)

• Bring direct benefits to the area in question & provide knowledge that can be applied to other areas / regions
The Network Plus model supports 3 interconnected strands of work:

1) Scoping, research leadership & partnership development activities.

Aims: to build sustainable partnerships between UK researchers and international partners in the region/area in order to identify research needs and opportunities and to co-design and co-develop research agendas to be explored through research and knowledge exchange calls.

Examples:

- Partnership development & knowledge exchange activity
- Seminars, workshops & scholar exchanges
- Training, skills development & ECR mentoring
- Placements for academics at partner organisations
- Exploratory, feasibility, proof of concept projects
2) Funding calls for innovative projects / activities

**Aims:** to address the identified challenges and with the capacity to respond to new priorities and crises as they emerge.

Funding of up to £150k per project/activity

**Examples:**

- 6-18 month pilot projects, innovation studies, data exploration, fieldwork etc
- Conferences, workshops & seminars
- Fellowships, exchanges, placements
3) Coordination, networking and synthesis of research funded as part of the Network Plus

- Building links with other research activity in the ‘area’
- KE & pathways to impact activity
- Building a strategic agenda for future research & dissemination
- Reflection, learning, synthesis & impact evaluation
- Stimulating/ editing research outputs
- Legacy planning
This call will utilise a two stage application process:

- Outline proposal
- Full proposal stage

**Applicants must submit an outline proposal in order to be invited to submit a full proposal**
Timetable

• Deadline for outline proposals: 16:00 BST - Tuesday 9 April
• Outcomes of outline stage announced: w/c 27 May
• Full stage call launch: 30 May
• Deadline for full stage applications: 16:00 BST - Thursday 19 September
• Moderating & interview panel meeting: w/c 2 December and 9 December
• Final outcomes announced: End of December
• Projects officially start: 1 April 2020
Questions?

For any queries or comments about the AHRC managed UKRI GCRF calls, please email: gcrf@ahrc.ukri.org
Q&A Panel

Video ref: 2:24:24
Deepening Democracy Network Plus

SOAS University of London

with

Enlightened Myanmar Research Foundation (Yangon)
Jawaharlal Nehru University (New Delhi)
Forum for Social Studies (Addis Ababa)
Hansard Society (London)
Leeds University (Leeds)

This presentation was given in London and is not included in the video
Outline of this presentation

1. Expectations and experiences
2. Partnership and capacity
3. Management across different pressures and disciplines
4. Impact and ethics
5. Life after funding

The Ethiopian Parliament in Addis Ababa
Experiences of Network Plus

• Our agenda & GCRF perfect fit – ‘decolonising’?
• Under pressure to set up by start date & get schemes running within a few months – three years too short
• Solidarity with other Network Plus useful and with yr own professional staff essential
• Awkward rules – e.g., UK applicants required over £30k
We chose partners organisations committed to supporting the capacity development of others.

Capacity development can’t be done by outsiders but offering a range of support (peer learning, training, mentoring, accompaniment, guidance etc) does help.

We under-estimated scholars’ capacity to develop research proposals – massively over subscribed – and resources needed for translation/interpretation into local languages.
• Talented and committed partners & core team with supportive and challenging CIs/advisors is the foundation
• Under-estimated difficulties of nurturing inter-disciplinarity (arts, humanities, and social sciences) in Myanmar and Ethiopia (despite CI warnings) – scaled up training
• AHRC incredibly responsive (e.g., investing in conference) and understands need for flexibility and dialogue

Jas advising on grant-making at a conference in Mekelle, Ethiopia
Learning, ethics and impact

- Ethics: as soon as you aim for social / political outcomes, you face conflicts, challenges & choices. This requires Dewey’s (after Aristotle) practical judgement more than following rules and codes.

- In turbulent places (Myanmar and Ethiopia) we always consult our CIs in those places before doing anything.

- Applicants have to complete an ODA compliance statement. We have complex historical-ethnographic monitoring and learning processes to collectively ensure we can provide evidence of learning, ethics and impact.
Quality outputs – arts re-imagining politics

Study of MPs in newspapers since 1920s, Kachinland Research Centre

Nandar Aung
6th Memory!
Film Festival to highlight
Press and Democracy

Women entering politics
Copyright Min Ar Kar Tet

For details see http://parliaments4people.com/p4pgrantees/
Life after funding

• Legacy built into the Network from the beginning
• SOAS team and CIs will produce outputs about managing international research coalitions and networks
• Research/advocacy impact, alliances and capacity in research orgs stronger in Myanmar and Ethiopia
• Submitted applications to continue the Global Research Network on Parliaments and People

Example of grantee research report in Chin (Chinbridge Institute)