

UK Research for Sustainable Development

The Global Challenges Research Fund



To cover

- Research for Sustainable Development: The UK Funding Landscape
- Introducing The Global Challenges Research Fund
- GCRF: Working in Partnership
- Current Opportunities and Further Information

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Research for Development: The UK Funding Landscape



Global Context: UN Sustainable Development Goals



UK Funding for Research for Development

- Newton Fund (£735m fund; government-to-government)
- Prosperity Fund (£1.3 billion cross-UK Government Fund)
- Ross Fund (£1 billion fund managed by DFID & Department for Health)
- Department for International Development (DfID)
- The Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF)

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Introducing The Global Challenges Research Fund



GCRF: Funding, Duration, Focus

- £1.5billion funding
- 2016-2021
- 7 delivery partners
- Challenge led / researcher driven
- Interdisciplinary research with impact
- Strengthening capacity

GCRF: Breadth of Ambition

Equitable access to sustainable development

to create new knowledge and drive innovation that helps to ensure that everyone across the globe can prosper through access to health, food, water, education, energy etc.

Sustainable economies and societies

to identify new responses to the challenges arising from changes in population, technology, consumption and pressure on the environment

Human rights, good governance and social justice

to understand how to strengthen the institutions that underpin peaceful societies, good governance, respect for human rights and the rule of law.

GCRF: Key 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

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

Growing research capability to meet the challenges faced by developing countries



GCRF Interdisciplinary Research Hubs call

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> [GCRF Interdisciplinary Research Hubs call \(/media/news/170714/\)](#)

14/07/2017

Research Councils UK invites proposals from eligible UK institutions to establish and lead a number of challenge-led and impact-focused GCRF Interdisciplinary Research Hubs which will tackle some of the most complex and persistent issues facing developing countries.

Between £8M - £20M (full economic cost) will be available for each Hub, provided over a 5 year period starting on 1st December 2018. Depending on the quality of the applications received we anticipate awarding 12-15 Hubs.

This call asks applicants to develop transformative approaches to 'Intractable Development Challenges' through: a challenge and impact focused approach; interdisciplinary research excellence; global partnerships; and strong organisation and leadership.

Intractable Development Challenges are cross-cutting and complex problems which are difficult to understand and address. The solutions are not always obvious, encouraging fragmented responses and the challenges themselves are resistant to change. They typically cannot be solved by a single organisation or by approaching them from only one disciplinary or sectoral perspective.

For more information, including contacts, see the call text web page. ([/funding/gcrf/interdisciplinary-research-hubs-to-address-intractable-challenges/](#))

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Further information

Contact:

RCUK Communications Team

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GCRF: Current Opportunities and Further Information



Current opportunities: Research Council led Newton Fund and GCRF

Call title	Lead RC	Closing date
Exploring and understanding Colombian bio resources	NERC	24 Oct/30 Nov 2017
RCUK-Colciencias Research Partnerships call	RCUK	23/30 Nov 2017
Understanding the impacts of hydrometeorological hazards in SE Asia	NERC/ ESRC	4 Dec 2017
Cultural heritage and rapid urbanisation in India	AHRC	7 Dec 2017
Interdisciplinary Research hubs to Address Intractable Challenges Faced by Developing Countries	RCUK	9 Nov 2017
Mental health, education and skills, decent work, inclusive societies	ESRC	TBC (pre-call stage)

Further information

GCRF website: gcrf.gov.uk

RCUK:

<http://www.rcuk.ac.uk/funding/gcrf/>

Academies websites