***University of St Andrews***

**SFC Official Development Assistance GCRF 2020-21 Rapid Response**

***Guidance notes for applicants***

***Applications are submitted online; please email*** [***ris\_gcrf@st-andrews.ac.uk***](mailto:ris_gcrf@st-andrews.ac.uk) ***if you have queries.***

***Deadline for applications – open***

**This call is open for applications for Rapid Response funding to support new or existing projects as situations and/or circumstances change or as new opportunities present themselves.**

This funding is intended for interdisciplinary and/or collaborative research which addresses the challenges defined for developing countries in the [Global Goals for Sustainable Development](https://www.globalgoals.org/).

The University has secured funding through the Scottish Funding Council for academic year 2020-21 as the last year of a 3-year strategy for longer-term projects to support cutting-edge research that promotes the economic development and well-being of countries on the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Development Assistance Committee (DAC) list. The OECD DAC list is available on: <http://www.oecd.org/dac/stats/daclist.htm>

The University is committed to supporting projects that are intended to make a real difference to the lives of people in ODA countries, particularly in countries on the Least Developed, Low Income and Lower Middle Income DAC list[[1]](#footnote-1).

The aim is to develop strong and enduring partnerships between the University and developing-country researchers to enhance the research and innovation capacity of both and to deliver substantial impact on improved social welfare, economic development, and environmental sustainability.

This funding will be open to new and existing applicants to SFC GCRF funding from all disciplines. Interdisciplinary applications and proposals led by post-doctoral researchers seeking to establish St-Andrews and Scotland-wide collaborations will be particularly welcomed.

Rapid response projects can be up to a **maximum of £30k** for 2020-21[[2]](#footnote-2). Attention should also be given to the balance between St Andrews-based salary costs and the costs and spend in the ODA country context. Please note that no more than 30% of the total funds requested can be for St Andrews based Research Assistance.

Priority umbrella themes are:

* Energy and innovation
* Global health and inequality
* Sustainability and environmental change
* Culture heritage and development (added in 2019)

Sustainable livelihoods, promoting justice and humanitarian action and secure and sustainable food systems, gender equity, rapid urbanization and cultural heritage preservation are embedded within each theme in line with Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) priorities.

Acceptable use of funds, as long as urgency and ODA compliance criteria are met, includes supporting:

* Capacity and capability building in the UK and developing countries (including strengthening partnership with DAC countries across Scotland).
* Visiting fellowships for colleagues from DAC listed countries (including those from academic, third sector, commercial and policy-focused institutions)
* Pump-priming activities to under-pin GCRF bids to other funders, including relationship building
* Generating impact from research both within and beyond the sector

Projects led by post-doctoral researchers based at St Andrews are welcome but need to indicate the following elements: own idea; one output as a result; engagement with St Andrews permanent staff; longer term plans for sustainability of the research agenda.

Activities should align with the GCRF Strategy and BEIS ODA Statement of Intent which were published at the end of June 2017:

* [UK Strategy for the Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF)](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/623825/global-challenges-research-fund-gcrf-strategy.pdf)
* [Research & Innovation: Official Development Assistance (ODA) Statement of Intent](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/beis-official-development-assistance-research-and-innovation)

Applicants are encouraged to consult the [UKRI ODA Global Challenged Research Fund Guidance](https://www.ukri.org/files/legacy/international/gcrfodaguidance-pdf/).

The UK Aid Strategy recognised that research and innovation has a critical role to play in tackling global challenges which most significantly impact upon developing countries. The report identifies the following major drivers of today’s development challenges:

* The youth bulge
* Urbanisation
* Global health security
* Fragility and conflict
* Climate change

**Funding will prioritise those areas that have the strongest pathways to impact and where there is the strongest demonstrable expertise to deliver maximum benefits to the global poor.** Applications should include anticipated outcomes and project aims and explain how these are directly and primarily relevant to addressing the problems of developing countries.

**We encourage applicants, especially those applying for the first time to GCRF funding, to seek advice from members of the St Andrews Global Challenge Forum by contacting** [**ris\_gcrf@st-andrews.ac.uk**](mailto:ris_gcrf@st-andrews.ac.uk) **in the first instance.**

Please email applications to [ris\_gcrf@st-andrews.ac.uk](http://ris_gcrf@st-andrews.ac.uk).

**All spend on the grants must be completed by 31st July 2021.**

**SFC Official Development Assistance GCRF 2020-21 Rapid Response application form**

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| --- | --- |
| **Title of project** |  |
| **Title(s) of associated SFC ODA GCRF** project(s) or other funded research targeting development challenges, if applicable |  |
| **Current XFC account**, if applicable |  |
| **Principal investigator(s)** |  |
| **Co-Investigator(s)** at St Andrews and in the ODA country(ies) |  |
| **School/Department** |  |
| **Contact email address** |  |
| **Start date** |  |
| **Anticipated end date** for 2020-21 (NB: the spend deadline is 31 July 2021.) |  |
| **ODA country(ies)** supported by this project |  |
| **ODA collaborators:** Other collaborators in ODA countries; please include job titles, organisations and their involvement with the project. Which of these have you spoken to (and when) in developing this proposal? |  |
| **Total funding** requested from SFC ODA GCRF - please use FAS for accurate costings as appropriate and please have the collaborator budget(s) separated (if applicable), e.g.  % of PDRA time. | **Please attach the FAS costing PDF at the end of the application form.** |
| **Itemised costings:** for example, travel, subsistence, RA salaries, ODA colleague salaries, equipment  Please note that PI and Co-I staff time is not eligible but DAC List Country Co-Investigators are eligible for 20% of international salary-related overhead costs. | **Please attach a PDF of your itemised breakdown for St Andrews budget and collaborator(s).** |
| **Project description**  **3000 Characters/Approx. 400 words** |  |
| **Non-specialist abstract** of the project  **1500 Characters/Approx. 200 words** |  |
| **Urgency:** Please explain why this application requires immediate consideration, that is, why it cannot wait for the open call. |  |
| **Success indicators:** Evidence of success in the above projects (e.g., follow-on funding, academic or other outputs, media coverage, etc.)  This can include previous collaborations applicable to this project.  **1500 Characters/Approx. 200 words** |  |
| **Expertise:** If you have any relevant experience/ expertise in ODA research or practice, please outline briefly here.  **1500 Characters/Approx. 200 words** |  |
| **Methodology:** Please describe your methodology or approach  **1125 Characters/Approx. 150 words** |  |
| Which Global Challenge Forum priority challenge theme do you feel your project is most aligned to? | Energy and innovation  Global health and inequality  Sustainability and environmental change  Culture heritage and development |
| If applicable, which of the Global Challenge Forum sub-themes do you feel your project is aligned to?  Please select 1 or more that are applicable | Sustainable livelihoods  Promoting justice and humanitarian action  Secure and sustainable food systems  Gender equality  Rapid urbanization  Cultural heritage preservation  Other - please state |
| **Sustainable Development Goals:** What are the UN Sustainable Development Goals being addressed? (<https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/>) | * Goal 1: No Poverty: End poverty in all its forms * Goal 2: Zero Hunger * Goal 3: Good Health and Well-being * Goal 4: Quality Education * Goal 5: Gender equality and women's empowerment * Goal 6: Clean Water and Sanitation * Goal 7: Affordable and Clean Energy * Goal 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth * Goal 9: Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure * Goal 10: Reduced Inequality * Goal 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities * Goal 12: Sustainable Consumption and Production * Goal 13: Climate Action * Goal 14: Life below Water * Goal 15: Life on Land: Biodiversity, forests, desertification * Goal 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions * Goal 17: Partnerships for the Goals |
| **Outcomes and sustainability:** Please describe the project milestones, anticipated outcomes & legacies with timeline for spend for year 2020-21.  Please briefly describe how your desired outcomes are directly and primarily relevant to addressing the problems of the specified developing country(ies).  If you wish, you can upload a Gantt chart or diagram as a PDF at the end of the form.  **2250 Characters/Approx. 300 words** |  |
| **Monitoring:** Please include steps towards achieving and monitoring the outcomes listed above.  **1500 Characters/Approx. 200 words** |  |
| **Academic quality and contribution to the discipline (innovation):** Please describe the contribution to furthering academic knowledge in the relevant field, the academic quality of the proposed work, the ability to cut across disciplines and, if appropriate, the inclusion of students.  **2250 Characters/Approx. 300 words** |  |
| **Gender equality:** Please provide a brief Gender Equality Statement  **1500 Characters/Approx. 200 words** |  |
| **Safeguarding:** If you intend to work with vulnerable ODA beneficiaries, please describe how you will safeguard them from harm. More information is available on: [https://www.ukcdr.org.uk/resource/guidance-on-safeguarding-in-international-development-research/](http://www.ukcdr.org.uk/resource/guidance-on-safeguarding-in-international-development-research/)  **1500 Characters/Approx. 200 words** |  |
| **Ethics:** If the proposed piece of work requires ethical approval, has / will this be sought? If so, please briefly summarise the issues.  **1500 Characters/Approx. 200 words** |  |
| **Due diligence:** Is it anticipated that control of the disbursement of any funds associated with this project would be transferred to organisations/individuals outside the UK? If yes, what steps have you taken to reassure yourself that the organisation/individual is trustworthy? \*  **If funds are being sent to collaborators, you need to submit a Pre-Award Due Diligence form for each ODA partner** (if applicable) for FAS & Research Integrity to review at the time of or prior to submitting this application form.  **1500 Characters/Approx. 200 words** |  |
| **Other avenues of funding:** please describe other avenues that are being sought/explored or other funding obtained (e.g. grant support, cash or in-kind contributions). Please give amount and source. |  |
| **Cash advances:** Will any cash advances be required for visitors from ODA countries coming to St Andrews/Scotland? Please seek advice from FAS. |  |
| **Other info:** Any other relevant information on your project, such as fit with institutional priorities, potential REF 2021 impact case study, etc.  **750 Characters/Approx. 100 words** |  |

\* When considering partner risk, you should consider any issues that may damage the University’s reputation, especially whether the individual organisation or country have reported incidents of:

* Bribery and corruption
* Tax evasion
* Fraud
* Human rights violations
* The supressing or falsification of academic research.

The following external indices and guides can help to highlight these issues in the countries where you would like to work. This is particularly important when you are establishing new working relationships:

* [Foreign and Commonwealth Office Travel Advice](https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice).
* [Sanctions, Embargos and Restrictions](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/sanctions-embargoes-and-restrictions)
* [Corruption Perceptions Index](https://www.transparency.org/news/feature/corruption_perceptions_index_2016) collated by Transparency International
* [OECD Country Risk Classification](http://www.oecd.org/trade/xcred/crc.htm) or
* [World Bank Governance Indicators](https://data.worldbank.org/data-catalog/worldwide-governance-indicators)
* Political Instability Index: [Marsh Political Risk Map](http://articles.marsh.com/PoliticalRiskMap2017.aspx)

1. https://www.oecd.org/dac/stats/documentupload/DAC\_List\_ODA\_Recipients2014to2017\_flows\_En.pdf [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. The fund is not intended to support the following costs:

   Salary costs for permanent academic or professional staff

   Estates and indirect costs

   PhD fees

   Publisher Open Access [↑](#footnote-ref-2)