

# Informatics GCRF Workshop

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# GCRF Background

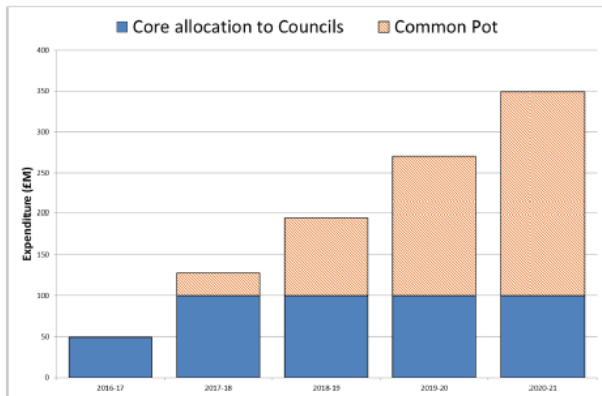
The **Global Challenges Research Fund** was announced earlier this year by George Osborne.

- Address global challenges through disciplinary and interdisciplinary research.
- Strengthen capability of research and innovation, within both UK and developing countries
- Facilitate agile response to emergencies and opportunities.

Across all research councils, and other funders (e.g. The Royal Society) are also making GCRF calls.

# GCRF allocation

(4<sup>th</sup> March 2016)



# “Doing things with people not simply for or to them”

Strengthening pathways to impact **within** developing countries.

- Building research capability and collaborations with academics in developing countries
- Building partnerships and collaborative links with NGOs/charities/civil society in developing countries
- Developing further collaborative opportunities to strengthen international links (including Newton, Department for International Development, Commonwealth etc)

# Official Development Assistance

- ODA appraisal embedded within proposal process and peer review.
- Explicit research challenges through community engagement.
- Mainstreamed across RCUK portfolio.
- Generic guidance around development and pathways to impact.
- Increased academic commitment to [development goals](#).

The countries which are considered eligible for ODA can be found on the DAC list compiled by the OECD:

<http://www.oecd.org/dac/stats/daclist.htm>

# Global Challenges

- **HEALTH**: to tackle diseases, strength health systems and reach the world's most vulnerable.
- **CLEAN ENERGY**: to provide access to clean energy, including new technologies and the behavioural insights required for successful introduction to developing countries.
- **SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE**: to improve nutrition and food security, support technological innovation, and increase resilience to climate change.
- **CONFLICT and HUMANITARIAN ACTION**: new insights and approaches for preventing conflict and violence, build stability and strengthen humanitarian action.
- **FOUNDATIONS FOR INCLUSIVE GROWTH**: to understand what works best for developing countries to build the foundations for economic development.

## UKRC timeframe

- Consultation (Town hall meetings and call for evidence) — June - August 2016.
- Focus Groups to refine and prioritise challenges — November - December 2016.
- Call for Ideas: community led strategies and priorities within challenges — Spring 2017.

## EPSRC plans

- This year's allocation was awarded as **institutional sponsorship grants** administered by College.
- The University was awarded a grant with a fixed end date of 31st March 2017 for **pump-priming research projects or impact acceleration activities** which are **ODA compliant**.
- The rest of the allocation will be focussed on **targeted calls** in ODA-compliant areas.
- First call was issued on 24th August and will close on 15th November 2016.



# Tackling global development challenges through engineering and digital technology research

Exemplar areas:

- 1 Tackling global development challenges through engineering research**
  - Sustainable infrastructure development
  - Engineering disaster resilience
  - Engineering for humanitarian aid
- 2 Tackling global development challenges through digital technology research**
  - access to digital services
  - Use of data for vital services
  - Secure and trusted digital infrastructures

Total budget of £25M and 20 projects expected to be funded.

## Structure for the rest of the morning

- 09:30-09:40 Welcome and Introduction
- 09:40-10:20 Andy Mount: Dean of Research  
*College Strategy towards GCRF*
- 10:20-10:40 Ewan Klein and Cat Magill:  
*Creating Value from Data in the context of  
Off-grid Energy Systems*
- 10:40-11:00 Coffee and pastries (MF2)
- 11:00-12:00 Theme-based breakout sessions (MF2 and 4.31/4.33)

# Breakout Themes

- Health
- Energy
- Sustainable agriculture/Food Security
- Digital infrastructures
- ?