

Eliza Calder, School of GeoSciences
Experience responding to a GCRF call

Global Challenges Research Fund: Building Resilience
Closing date: 16:00 on 6 September 2016

NERC, ESRC, AHRC – Building Resilience to Natural Hazards

-> foundation-building (in prep for future research calls), £200k, 9 months.

“The call will fund foundation-building activities to stimulate the creation of inter-disciplinary international research communities; to enable broader, deeper and more effective collaborations with beneficiaries and user organisations at the forefront of the development agenda; test new innovative ideas and inter-disciplinary approaches for addressing the issue of developing resilience. All proposals are expected to take an inter-disciplinary approach, bringing together environmental science with social science and arts and humanities.”

Funded Award:

Case for Support II: Communication with Hazard Maps in Central America: A multidisciplinary science-media-community network (HazMap_CA)



This proposal will bring together and form, for the first time, a network of researchers and practitioners to understand how hazard maps can be used more effectively to communicate hazard information with decision makers, emergency managers, NGOs, and the public before, during and after times of crisis in Central America.

Timelines

...ridiculous.

Announcement early/mid July

Workshop 19 July – London (did not attend – but slides were available)

Deadline – 6 September

Informed of award outcome – 17 October (2 weeks before start date)

Start date had to be no later than 1 November

End date had to be no later than July 2017

Max 9 months – network building

Major problem caused by these timelines – reaching out to people at short notice.. especially new partners/collaborators.

Topic – an advantage to have clear interdisciplinary appeal...



Maps: ‘Assembling the world in an image’: Maps have helped shape human society for centuries (Harley 1989; Phaidon Press 2015). They’ve been defined as *‘graphic representations that facilitate a spatial understanding of things, concepts, conditions, processes or events in the human world’*. **But the experience of viewing or using a map, how it might be used as a power tool for governance, or alternatively for empowering individuals with pertinent knowledge about their environments are important issues that are far from being understood.** When considering hazard maps in this context, the implications for how maps are used becomes critical. Maps are also representations and conceptualisations of ideas and material from one subject area to another, and therefore naturally lend themselves to form a locus for interdisciplinary research.

What I understand about the review process

***Possibly 160-170 proposals submitted....reviewed by a committee over 2 days ?...
(not sent out for external review)***

23 funded

Need to be easily to read, easy to 'get' – as they have to undergo a fast review....

The team (need highlight interdisciplinary experience – and one from each RCUK)

Eliza Calder (PI) is a Senior Lecturer (GeoSciences, University of Edinburgh (UoE) ...leads its **Commission on Volcanic Hazards and Risk** including a **working group on Hazard Maps**. Calder also works with the **USGS Volcano Disaster Assistance Program** supported by **USAID** on hazard workshops for practitioners in developing countries, and sits on the UK Government FCO, Scientific Advisory Committee for Montserrat.

Julie Cupples (Co-I) is a Reader in Human Geography and **Co-Director of the Global Development Academy** at UoE.... She is the author of *Latin American Development* (Routledge 2013), the editor of *Mediated Geographies and Geographies of Media* (Springer 2015), ..

Catharine Ward Thompson is Professor of Landscape Architecture and Director of OPENspace research centre at UoE. She has expertise in **landscape perception and projective methods of eliciting understanding of people's engagement with place and place identity**. ... is currently **PI for the EPSRC, AHRC & ESRC funded Lifelong Health & Wellbeing project, 'Mobility, Mood & Place'**, focused on co-production and co-design approaches to researching older people's outdoor activity and wellbeing.

Other international collaborators (3 people) ..

UK Network Participants: *Natural and physical sciences (+ 5 people)*

Social Science, Arts and Humanities (+ 6 people)...* ***Important that its not just physical science with add-ons**

The team - Project collaborators/partners:

(in country interest and needs need to be clear)

UK partners: **NGO - MAPAction** (N. McWilliam) is a humanitarian mapping charity that works through specialist volunteers.

In-country collaborators and beneficiaries *(underlined where we have letters of support):*

Government Institutions responsible for natural hazards: Instituto Nacional de Sismología, Vulcanología, Meteorología e Hidrología (INSEVUMEH), Guatemala.(G. Chigna); Servicio Nacional de Estudios Territoriales (SNET), El Salvador (M. Diaz); Instituto Nicaragüense de Estudios Territoriales (INETER), Nicaragua (M. Navarro); and Central American disaster prevention body CEPREDENAC (D. Ferres); Alcaldia Municipal La Libertad (N. A. Hernandez).

Academic Institutions: Universidad de El Salvador Facultad Multidisciplinaria Paracentral – Hazards, Risk and land use (E.A. Orantes/Cecilia/ J.F Centeno); University of the Autonomous Regions of the Caribbean Coast of Nicaragua (URACCAN) D. Lee - Project Partner.

Civil Protection Authorities/Disaster Risk Management: Centro de Proteccion para Desastres (CEPRODE), El Salvador; Direccion General de Proteccion Civil: El Salvador (S. Crespín).

NGOs/Disaster Risk Reduction: Nicaragua, Instituto de Investigaciones y Gestión Social (INGES) (G. Incer Medina); Centro de Proteccion para Desastres (CEPRODE) (R. Antonio/P.Galan); Geólogos del Mundo (D. Ferres); CARE: El Salvador (Wilfredo); Lutheran World Relief: Nicaragua NGO-Disaster Risk Reduction (B. Coppens).

Principal Activities in our proposal

- (i) Strategic reviews to connect literature from diverse fields
- (ii) Partnership building
- (iii) UK Kick-off Workshop
- (iv) Communicating with Hazard Maps in Central America Workshop
- (iv) Strategic Planning

ODA compliance

Countries chosen on the basis of:

“This call focuses on strengthening resilience to environmental hazards in Low & Middle Income Countries (LMICs) – specifically those on the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Development Assistance Committee (DAC) list of ODA Recipients” ..

Guatemala, Nicaragua and El Salvador

...Lower Middle Income Countries and Territories

Co-I Julie Cupples (Human geography/development studies) wrote the ODA compliance statement ...demonstrating in country needs important and language is important.

Pathways to Impact

We identified four principal socio-economic beneficiary groups that could benefit from this work:

1. **Hazard practitioners:** Individuals at government agencies in El Salvador, Guatemala and Nicaragua that are responsible for undertaking volcano monitoring and hazard assessments.
2. **Decision makers/Civil Protection:** that utilize hazard assessments and information on the state of unrest of a particular volcano to make hazard management decisions for short term hazard mitigation as well as long term planning.
3. **Academics in our partner countries** from any of the main disciplinary areas covered by this network.
4. **NGOs and Charities:** Any non-profit, voluntary citizens group which is organized on a local, national or international level in El Salvador, Guatemala and Nicaragua that take responsibility for administering aid and/or improving wellbeing.
5. **General public:** People living in hazardous areas are often aware of hazards in the landscape, and may have prior experience of them will be benefited by being able to make decisions about their own livelihood.

In particular we wish to highlight our partnership with the **Charity - MapAction**.In their letter of support MapAction outline 5 separate ways in which the proposal is directly relevant and will impact the work that they undertake.

Feedback from Reviews

Brief – but...

Reviews highlighted in-country support (letters),
and clear interest from charity – MapAction... as being strong.

As well as track record in the topic..