Research support:

How it all works.

The emerging Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF)

sheffield.ac.uk/ris
Through GCRF we have a remarkable opportunity for our interdisciplinary researchers to work in collaboration with multiple partners to address some of the biggest economic and societal challenges that developing countries are facing.

This third edition of How it all works focuses on the emerging Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF).

Since the announcement of the GCRF by the Government as part of the 2015 Comprehensive Spending Review, we have been working closely with the Faculties and other Professional Services departments to look at how we can capitalise on this significant opportunity to apply our knowledge and expertise to the world’s major challenges through impactful, interdisciplinary programmes and wider collaboration.

The five year programme (2016-2021) marks the Government’s intention to allocate research funding to build large scale interdisciplinary and collaborative global projects. Whilst this type of funding may not be appropriate for all research areas it does complement both our internationalisation and research strategies. Similarly international collaboration will be a focus for major funders over the coming years.

To maximise current opportunities it is important we understand the GCRF as it evolves. This guide gives an overview of the considerations when building a successful GCRF application, guidance from university colleagues on the interdisciplinary approach to take and the importance of building effective and ethical partnerships in ODA countries. It also details why a clear and robust pathways to impact statement is crucial.

Finally, the guide details the practicalities of applying, workshops to kick-start projects, timescales of funding calls and the right person to contact both within the Faculties, Research and Innovation Services (R&IS) and other Professional Services departments.

I hope you will find this an informative guide.
Setting the scene: the emerging GCRF

This £1.5 billion fund is designed to ensure that the UK takes a leading role in addressing the problems faced by developing countries. This funding represents protected research spend and is part of the Government’s pledge to provide ODA to developing countries in which cutting-edge research is translated into local impact where there is an unmet need.

The GCRF is administered through delivery partners including the Research Councils and national academies. The Research Councils have each received directly allocated portions of the GCRF, which they are all administering in a mix of allocations to institutions, funding of priority areas and open calls. A large amount of funding that remains unallocated (increasingly known as the collective fund) will grow significantly over the next four years and will focus on ways of tackling key global challenges such as health, clean energy, sustainable agriculture, conflict and humanitarian action and foundations for inclusive growth.

This rapidly evolving GCRF is accessible to all. Early career researchers through to lecturers and professors are encouraged to get involved, either by joining an existing interdisciplinary collaboration or by submitting an individual application.

Since the initial Government communications about GCRF, much preparatory activity has taken place. Since May 2016 alone, there have been seventeen different calls, administered by different research councils and RCUK itself. The number of challenges has also grown from the original five to a new list of eleven.

We have already been successful with our first GCRF proposals from the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) and the Medical Research Council (MRC) as well as supporting GCRF activity by pump priming the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) quick-spend funds into fourteen projects across the University.

In this fast changing environment, we will keep sharing our plans to support colleagues via the dedicated GCRF web pages - please check these regularly.

I look forward to seeing many more successful GCRF proposals from Sheffield.

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sheffield.ac.uk/ris/gcrf
Throughout the past year the Research Councils have consulted with the UK research community and other stakeholders to confirm the following three broad themes and eleven challenge areas*.

Leave no one behind
The vision for GCRF is to create new knowledge and drive innovation that helps to ensure that everyone across the globe has access to:
1. Secure and resilient food systems supported by sustainable agriculture
2. Sustainable health and wellbeing
3. Inclusive and equitable quality education
4. Clean air, water and sanitation
5. Renewable energy and materials

Sustainable Societies and Economies
Each of the five challenge areas listed above must be placed in the context of the need to create sustainable economies and societies through identifying new responses to the challenges arising from changes in population, technology, consumption and pressure on the environment. GCRF will support research that for the longer-term builds:
6. Sustainable livelihoods supported by strong foundations for inclusive economic growth and innovation
7. Resilience and action on short-term environmental shocks and long-term environmental change
8. Sustainable cities and communities

Support Peace & Justice
Developing an understanding of the institutions that enable the development of peaceful societies, good governance systems, and respect for human rights and the rule of law – and the means to strengthen these – is paramount. The GCRF will also support research that enables us to:
9. Understand and effectively respond to forced displacement and multiple refugee crises
10. Reduce conflict and promote peace, justice and humanitarian action
11. Reduce poverty and inequality, including gender inequalities

The challenges facing societies and individuals across the globe are often complex, protracted and multi-faceted. The GCRF is designed to encourage multidisciplinary research that offers a holistic, whole-system view of these challenges, and generates new insights into how they could be tackled.

* Subject to change, please visit the RCUK website for the latest information

Which are the eligible Official Development Assistance (ODA) Countries?
This is the most important consideration for the GCRF calls. Any GCRF project must demonstrate that its primary purpose is to promote the economic development and welfare of Low or Middle Income Countries (LMICs) on the DAC list of ODA** recipients and any applications to the GCRF will need to comply with these ODA guidelines.

** Subject to change, please check the web pages for the latest ODA countries list.
The amount of GCRF available from the Research Councils is set to increase year upon year throughout the five year life span of the fund. This gives UK researchers time to ensure they have all the considerations in place (such as interdisciplinary research, partnerships in ODA countries, ethical issues and pathways to impact) for building and submitting a successful application.

Section 01.

What is the GCRF expenditure over the next 5 years?

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Key
- Core allocations to Councils
- Collective Fund

Section 01.

Asking yourself the right questions at the beginning

R&IS has put together a series of questions to ask yourself before applying for the GCRF.

Is my research ODA eligible?

Can I clearly demonstrate the pathways to impact of my research?

Which partners in countries on the DAC list will I be working alongside?

Do I show an awareness of the practical challenges and constraints of my research?

Have I considered the ethical challenges and reputational risks that my research presents?

Are my proposed solutions compatible with local customs and culture?

Do I take an interdisciplinary approach in my proposed project?

Is my proposed project genuinely innovative, generalisable and adventurous?

Does my research provide far-reaching solutions for a changing world?

Have I considered the employment implications of working overseas?

Guidance to help you answer these questions:
sheffield.ac.uk/ris/application/gcrf/before-you-apply
For a group of people dedicated to the pursuit of breakthrough ideas, the UK's research community can be surprisingly conservative. There is a tendency among our leading universities to favour incremental tweaks over radical upheaval of the policies and structures for research funding and collaboration. Disruptive change seems to occur no more than once in a generation. However we are now in a moment of significant change. The Higher Education and Research Bill – currently making its way through Parliament – will draw all seven research councils, Innovate UK and HEFCE’s quality-related funding under the new strategic umbrella of UK Research and Innovation (UKRI).

Thinking outside the box

Drawing on a range of experts across the university, this section gives an overview of the main questions you should think about before developing and submitting an application to the GCRF:

- How will your project take an holistic and interdisciplinary approach to tackling global challenges?
- Can you develop effective partnerships in DAC listed countries in advance of calls being released?
- Can you prepare a detailed and evidenced case for pathways to impact?
- Have you considered an ethical approach: ensuring your research is rigorous, respectful and responsible?
- Have you considered the human dimension to global research challenges?

To realise the potential of the GCRF, we have to get serious about new ways of working. Genuinely interdisciplinary and challenge-focused research is likely to take us out of our theoretical and methodological comfort zones, and highlight the diversity of ways to understand a particular problem. Getting users involved in the design of research projects can further expand our horizons, but isn’t always easy.

Successful GCRF teams will need great ideas, talented researchers and strong partnerships. But they will also need a few brokers and boundary-spanners – the “T-shaped” people who can make collaborations work.

James Wilsdon
Professor of Research Policy, Department of Politics, Director of Impact and Engagement, Faculty of Social Sciences
j.wilsdon@sheffield.ac.uk
Almost all of the schemes advertised so far have expected teams to come together that represent the views of multiple disciplines, extending from the social sciences, arts and humanities to the more STEM-specific subjects. This is even more pronounced for the Research Council UK collective call which is not led by a standalone Research Council. Inter-sectoral interdisciplinarity is expected with delivery partners like NGO’s and government groups providing expertise complementary to that available within the academic research group.

Addressing grand challenges has long recognised the need for multiple parties to come together to solve a problem from a full 360º angle. However the practicalities are still not trivial for individuals wishing to set up new networks and collaborative efforts. Support is available to:

- Find academic partners in a different discipline
- Host interdisciplinary events and dialogues to co-create research questions and ideas for projects
- Develop terms of reference for new teams representing multiple disciplines and interests.
- Review applications and ensure interdisciplinary criteria, set by the funder, are met

Expertise is available both in R&IS as well as research centres like the Sheffield Institute for International Development (SIID) and the South-East European Research Centre (SEERC) as well as many others.

Useful contacts

The Sheffield Institute for International Development (SIID)
Dan Brockington, SIID Director
d.brockington@sheffield.ac.uk
siid.group@shef.ac.uk

The South-East European Research Centre (SEERC)
Nikos Zaharis, SEERC Director
nzaharis@seerc.org
seerc.org

Dr Melanie Knight
Interdisciplinary Research Manager, Research & Innovation Services
m.knight@sheffield.ac.uk

We’ve seen that developing solutions to the complex challenges faced by developing countries will require creative approaches, interdisciplinary working and effective partnerships. Finding the right partners and building the necessary effective and equitable relationships in these countries can initially appear daunting.

This section gives a few pointers on finding partners and building relationships. Further advice is available on the UK Collaborative on Development Sciences (UKCDS) website.

What makes a successful partnership?

Whilst there is no simple universal answer to this, issues of equity, transparency and benefit sharing are critical to success. Some commonly cited success factors include:

- A common, shared vision and purpose and realistically defined goals
- Support for the partnership from participating organisations
- Equitable sharing of resources, responsibilities, and benefits
- Transparent decision-making
- Creation of genuine respect and trust between the partners
- Pursuit and achievement of higher level outcomes beyond the partnership itself

How do I identify international partners?

A good starting point is a review of your existing international research links, as even if not potential partners themselves, they may be able to introduce you to the right contacts in country. Similarly, take stock of contacts available through your current or former international Postdoctoral Research Associates, PhD students and graduates. Your department and faculty may also maintain international relationships that could be of use.

What networks can I use to find international partners?

Through the University you have access to a range of groups that can offer the opportunity to build new partnerships or can help understand the local environment. These include:

- World Universities Network, with members in the ODA countries of South Africa, Ghana, and China
- The Association of Commonwealth Universities with more than 500 member institutions in over 50 countries across the Commonwealth, many of whom are on the DAC list

Full list of research centres:
sheffield.ac.uk/research/centres

sheffield.ac.uk/ris/application/gcrf/before-you-apply
Developing effective international partnerships

- Universities UK International, the international arm of Universities UK, provides analysis and access to international networks and specialist communities. Also maintain and Newton Fund PhD partnering service and collaboration noticeboard
  universitiesuk.ac.uk/International

- Professional bodies and the learned societies can offer both access to networks internationally and often small mobility grants to aid partnership building. Examples include the Royal Academy of Engineering, the Royal Society, the Academy of Medical Science, the British Academy (all Newton Fund delivery partners) and the Royal Society of Chemistry
  siid.group.shef.ac.uk

- UK Government networks based in Embassies and High Commissions in developing countries, for example the UK Science & Innovation Network, can provide advice and access to contacts plus specific collaboration opportunities
  gov.uk/government/world/organisations/uk-science-and-innovation-network

What support is available to me here?
There is a great deal of guidance and support available within the University which can help you build a new partnership or develop an existing one:

- Global Engagement team – provide advice and market intelligence and manage international relationships with university and corporate partners and the Worldwide Universities Network (WUN)
  sheffield.ac.uk/global/contact

- Sheffield Institute for International Development – the fellowship of over 70 scholars across the University have a network of academic and practitioner partners in governments, think tanks and NGOs around the world
  siid.group.shef.ac.uk

- R&IS GCRF portal offers funding opportunities, guidance, resources and contacts for potential applicants to the Global Challenges Research Fund and Newton Fund
  sheffield.ac.uk/ris/application/gcrf

What funding is available to build partnerships?
Building an effective and trusted international partnership takes time. Visits to potential partners to establish connections, workshops, staff and student exchanges can all be valuable for building mutual understanding and trust. There are a wide range of small mobility and workshop funds which can be accessed for these purposes:

- The Newton Fund ‘People’ strand offers researcher links; workshop grants; institutional links; PhD exchanges; faculty exchanges/fellowships
  newtonfund.ac.uk

- The Learned Societies and professional institutions offer a range of mobility and workshop grants both within and without the Newton Fund

- RCUK International teams, the UK Science & Innovation Network and Department of International Trade teams offer a range of missions and workshops used to shape future international collaborations and research calls

The EPSRC IAA (GCRF) quick-spend funds were a great opportunity to initiate collaborative research with contacts in China and Malaysia. The chance to meet and see their drainage systems and the problems they are dealing with has inspired us to find new angles for our research. We now have a Newton collaboration grant with Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia to pinpoint issues associated with wastewater quality and are exploring research funding opportunities with our colleagues at Tsinghua University in China.

Dr Henriette Jensen
Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering
Demonstrating pathways to impact

Impact from research cannot be guaranteed, however since 2009 the Research Councils have required that all research funding applications have considered who beyond academia may benefit from the research findings. The impact is addressed in two parts: the impact summary looks at who may benefit and how: the Pathways to Impact document describes how the likelihood of the impact occurring may be enhanced.

Impact is a requirement for the challenge-led GCRF applications. Like the ODA compliance statement, the focus of the GCRF impact summary is how the people in the partner and other developing countries will benefit. The impact summary describes the context, scale and importance of addressing the challenge to developing countries in the future.

The Pathways to Impact describe activities to be undertaken during the research project and how you and your partners are suited to enhancing the likelihood of the impact occurring. Impact is achieved when your research is used by external organisations, groups or individuals. Impact is more likely to happen if the relevant external stakeholders are actively involved in the research from design to application, but Pathways to Impact can also be used to develop new stakeholder relationships through knowledge exchange activities and user oriented communications.

Stakeholders may be local NGOs, charitable organisations, communities, private or public sectors or policy makers who are close to the problem and are interested in using your research. You need to consider the realistic activities that will best engage and enable your partners or others to take up your research.

The most successful Pathways to Impact is to build in flexibility by understanding the current context and what could potentially change due to the research. In this way appropriate success indicators can be determined for impact activities planned through the project. Identifying and tracking the indicators will enable you to see the stronger pathways that are emerging and plan for future research collaborations.

Things to consider:
- What independent information exists demonstrating the challenge to the developing country?
- Is this a priority for the country’s government?
- Who in other regions may be interested in your research?
- What resources will you need for the activities described in the Pathways to Impact?

For further information & guidance, please contact your Department Impact Lead who will be able to work with you to develop your impact or signpost you to the relevant support in your Faculty. Alternatively contact R&IS.

The GCRF offers a vehicle to make a real tangible difference to addressing the needs of ODA countries, and provides a means to apply all eight principles of the University’s Strategic Plan with potential huge reputational gain. But the GCRF also presents the real possibility of causing significant ethical and reputational risk and harm. The stakes are raised when undertaking research in ODA countries. Research integrity is about risk management and about fostering rigorous, respectful, responsible research – contributing to excellence through greater attention to design, delivery and post-delivery.

To offer guidance and support when considering the implications for research integrity and ethics of working with ODA countries, R&IS will be running workshops dedicated to these issues and providing guidance and other resources.

Visit the GCRF web pages for the latest dates and information.

Professor Paul Mosley, Department of Economics / the Sheffield Institute for International Development (SIID) has shared his top tips for successful ethical research in ODA countries.

1. Make sure you allow for the extra time and costs associated, and be aware that challenges are likely to be country-specific! Often ethical dilemmas are more challenging (for reasons ranging from language-comprehension problems to the fragility of government) and require lengthy consultations with local partners to understand the cultural context.

2. You may encounter unexpected challenges that require you to re-think your research method (including your strategy for gaining ethical approval)!

3. It is helpful, I would argue necessary, to involve locals as data collectors – their cultural and linguistic knowledge and understanding is invaluable, helping to bridge the divide between you and the researched community.

4. It may be hard to gain informed consent in the manner expected in the developed world, but body language transcends the language barrier and if you can see the participant is comfortable then that means more than any signed consent form.

5. It is the researcher’s responsibility to ensure fair credit is assigned. In many cases local partners are thrilled to be involved in an international project undertaken by a renowned institution, and they would not dream of demanding to be acknowledged or named as author, even if they fit the criteria. I’ve often had to insist they are included.

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Section 02. Considering the human dimension to global research challenges

There is no problem in contemporary life which does not have a human dimension. Research in arts, humanities and social sciences is a rich source of critical reflection on all aspects of individual and collective life, and is therefore central to any genuine understanding of contemporary society. Researchers in these fields work on individuals and whole societies; they work on the self-understanding of individual and groups, and on the external factors that shape them, as well as on the interaction between the two; and they work on how history and personal experience shape individual and collective lives, setting limits and creating possibilities.

A new initiative to support academic colleagues

Backed by the President / Vice-Chancellor, the Sheffield Global Humanities Initiative champions education and research, making the case to a variety of audiences and seeking to influence public policy to support the leading role of UK researchers, including those based in Sheffield. In doing so it will establish the credentials of the University as a key place for work dealing with global challenges. It will run for an initial period of 3 years from September 2016 with four major goals:

- Raise the profile of Sheffield’s research in arts, humanities and social sciences, with a particular emphasis on those activities that relate to global challenges at the forefront of public debate
- Support lobbying work to promote education and research in these areas
- Help to promote global partnerships in these disciplines
- Help Sheffield researchers access the GCRF

Researchers in arts, humanities and social sciences tend to favour an holistic approach to understanding social life. A number of key figures in RCUK and the constituent Research Councils have made it clear that projects with this approach will have a competitive advantage in applications for GCRF funding, and so the input of researchers from these disciplines could be of critical value to the design of grant applications. I would encourage researchers to visit the Global Humanities Initiative web pages for details on how to access the available support.

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sheffield.ac.uk/global-humanities
Part of UK’s commitment to spend 0.7% of Gross National Income (GNI) on Official Development Assistance (ODA)

Research agenda is organised around three themes:

- Leave no one behind
- Sustainable societies and economies
- Support peace and justice

The GCRF will provide £1.5 billion of additional resources by 2021

Calls via direct allocation* and open calls**

* Individual Research Councils
** Research Councils UK

Running between 2016 – 2021
Practicalities of applying

Workshops
Following the success of our GCRF open workshops in late 2016, which focused on disseminating information on the fund, in 2017 we will be running a series of events which are intended to directly facilitate ideas generation. Each of these day long events will focus on a particular challenge area, and will include short presentations from NGOs working in the area and other relevant external parties. However, the bulk of the day will be put aside for researchers to work together in cross-faculty teams to develop interdisciplinary research proposals which can be submitted to forthcoming calls, in the style of a ‘sandpit’.

The first of these events will focus on ‘health and wellbeing’ and ‘water and sanitation’. Attending one of the workshops is a great way to get engaged with the GCRF, and we strongly encourage anyone who has an interest in the respective challenge area to get involved.

In addition to these thematic events, we also have plans for other GCRF related workshops, including a workshop on research ethics and integrity.

Funding calls
The GCRF will be distributed partly through the individual Research Councils and increasingly through cross-council initiatives. Different Research Councils are handling the GCRF differently, so you are encouraged to find out as much as possible via R&IS and the faculty teams about the particular call you are interested in when developing your proposals.

As it is a fast-moving initiative R&IS will continue to disseminate Research Council information direct to faculties as soon as GCRF opportunities arise.
The support teams within R&IS are here to provide you with a wide range of support, guidance and information about the GCRF:

– The relationships and projects we already have in particular countries or for certain topics
– Possible project partners in a particular country
– Potential UK collaborators for large projects
– Information about undertaking research in a particular country

R&IS faculty contacts

Engineering

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Peter Caven
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Check the web pages for the latest contact details for your faculty sheffield.ac.uk/ris/application/gcrf/contact-us

Our MRC Foundation Award (GCRF) on dietary transitions in African cities will help us pave the way for future interventions to prevent diet related non-communicable diseases, like obesity, cardiovascular disease and type 2 diabetes in Ghana and Kenya. R&IS were very helpful in supporting us with our application at all stages - from initially helping make sense of what kind of research was likely to be successful in this new funding stream to practical tasks like proof reading our impact statement and checking funding regulations.

Professor Michelle Holdsworth
School of Health and Related Research (ScHARR)
Managing my award

04

The acceptance, contracting, implementation and delivery of a GCRF project is, in principle, no different to that for any other RCUK or UK charity award. However, the fact that these projects usually involve working with partners in ODA countries means that special considerations and extra due diligence needs to be applied. The main elements of post award support are described below.

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Note: The PI should contact the Pricing & Contracts Team in R&IS if award notification is received by letter.
Accepting the award – Contracting and consortium agreement

The Pricing and Contracts team in R&IS will work with you during the contracting stage. The funder will send a notification of award to the lead institution which contains details of any additional information they require (01). Where Sheffield is the lead institution, the Pricing and Contracts team in R&IS will contact the Principal Investigator (PI) during the stages below:

Contract preparation (02)

The Pricing and Contracts team will liaise with the PI, funder and partners as appropriate in contracting with the funder. In most cases, this will simply involve accepting the funder’s standard terms and conditions. Any non-standard terms and conditions will require special consideration. In some cases, separate contracts will be required with partner institutions, for instance where part of the research budget will be transferred to a partner institution which contains details of any additional terms and conditions. Any non-standard terms and conditions will require special consideration.

In some cases, separate contracts will be required with partner institutions, for instance where part of the research budget will be transferred to a partner or payment in advance is required for part of the research budget. The Pricing and Contracts team will coordinate this and provide advice and guidance throughout.

Consortium agreement (04)

Where a project involves partners, a consortium agreement will be needed to govern the relationship between them and build on the detail in the grant terms and conditions. Where Sheffield is the lead institution, the Pricing and Contracts team will start this process and progress can be tracked via the Research Agreements application on myResearch in MUSE.

Contract signature (03)

The Pricing and Contracts Team will arrange sign off/acceptance of the grant terms and conditions with the funder and any partners or sub-contractors.

Handover and project implementation (05)

If Sheffield is the lead institution, the project will be handed over to the relevant Faculty Finance (Research) team as soon as the grant agreement is signed. Where a consortium agreement is required, this can be negotiated in parallel to the account (UBASE) being set up, ready for the project to begin. If Sheffield is a partner, the award cannot be handed over to Faculty Finance (Research) until the consortium agreement is fully signed. In extremis it may be possible to set grants up early (to allow the recruitment process to begin or limited start-up spend) but this will need to be agreed with Faculty Finance (Research) in advance.

During this period, the EU and Large Project Implementation Manager based in R&IS will provide guidance and coordinate any professional service support that is needed in the early stages of new projects (05) – typically liaising with Faculty Finance (Research) team, Tax, HR, Procurement, and local Faculty and department-based support to ensure that funded projects can start quickly and with the required resources in place. Special consideration will be given to issues of researcher mobility, payments to ODA-country partners, invoicing and financial reporting, contracting with ODA partners, as well as the other ODA-specific issues outlined elsewhere in this guide.

Due diligence checks may also be required with respect to ODA-country partners. These checks, requiring input from a range of professional services, will assess partners’ governance, ability to deliver and financial stability, plus any reputational risk to university in partnering with them.

In consultation with Faculty Finance (Research), Tax Team and HR, the recruitment process for new posts (for example, drafting the advertisement) can begin as soon as the award is handed over and set up in UBASE. However, appointments can’t be finalised until the contract with the funder has been signed off/accepted.

Project delivery (06)

Where costed into the proposal, day to day project management will be supported by a dedicated project manager. Otherwise, support should be arranged locally, or the investigator may have chosen to manage the project themselves.

Once a project is up and running, Faculty Finance (Research) team will work with PIs, project managers and departments to provide support in the following main areas (06):

- **Income and expenditure reviews** are completed immediately after handover (as part of a start up meeting) and regularly throughout the project’s lifecycle. These reviews will reconcile income against contracted payment plans and expenditure against budget, particularly paying close attention to budget headings and values; virement allowances between budget headings and specific sponsor terms and conditions relating to expenditure eligibility. Frequent meetings between Faculty Finance (Research) should take place throughout the project lifecycle in line with these reviews.

- **Preparation of periodic financial reports** that need to be returned to the funder along with the scientific reports produced the PI and project team. Large grant submissions with multiple partners will be coordinated by the Project Manager.

- **E-recruitment approval** - Advice should be sought before advertisements are completed or ideally at consortium agreement stage (04) to assess where staff would be most appropriately employed in conjunction with any HR and Tax regulations that concern people working abroad.

- **Audit preparation** will be coordinated by Faculty Finance (Research) with appropriate input from PIs and project managers.

- **Query resolution** will be a major contact point with Faculty Finance (Research), clarifying sponsor terms and conditions; University financial regulations and grant terms and partner arrangements.

In addition, the Faculty Finance (Research) team will ultimately manage closure of the grant following the final project report to and payment from the funder.
To enable the University to collaborate more effectively with Non Governmental Organisations (NGOs) which work on development, I am leading on a project to develop and disseminate a software tool which will give details about NGOs with partners and/or projects operating in Low or Middle Income Countries (LMICs), provide information about an organisation’s size, geographical location of activity and areas of activity. This will be available for researchers in any faculty and should be available to use in June 2017. 

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