Global Challenges Research Fund
Small Grants Call

Mary Ryan
Clerk, UofG GCRF Coordination Group
International Development Coordinator, Glasgow Centre for International Development
About GCRF
Glasgow’s SFC GCRF Strategy
The Call
The Selection Process
Practicalities
Tips for Success
In 2015 the UK Government made it the law that 0.7% of Gross National Income (GNI) as Official Development Assistance (ODA)

What is 0.007 of our GNI?

£12,000,000,000,000
£12,000,000,000

80% Department for International Development

4.3% Business, Energy, Industrial Strategy

15% Department of Health, Foreign & Commonwealth Office, Home Office

60% Global Challenges Research Fund
£300 million/yr
5-year £1.5Bn fund and a key component in the delivery of the UK Aid Strategy: tackling global challenges in the national interest.

- challenge-led disciplinary and interdisciplinary research
- strengthening capacity for research and innovation within both the UK and developing countries
- providing an agile response to emergencies where there is an urgent research need
• Delivery partners
  – UK Research Councils
  – UK Higher Education Funding bodies
  – Academy of Medical Sciences
  – Royal Society
  – British Academy
  – Royal Academy of Engineering
  – UK Space Agency
How is GCRF Different?
• **Equitable Access to Sustainable Development**
  - secure and resilient food systems supported by sustainable marine resources and agriculture
  - sustainable health and well being
  - inclusive and equitable quality education
  - clean air, water and sanitation
  - affordable, reliable, sustainable energy

• **Sustainable Economies and Societies**
  - sustainable livelihoods supported by strong foundations for inclusive economic growth and innovation
  - resilience and action on short-term environmental shocks and long-term environmental change
  - sustainable cities and communities
  - sustainable production and consumption of materials and other resources

• **Human Rights, Good Governance and Social Justice**
  - understand and respond effectively to forced displacement and multiple refugee crises
  - reduce conflict and promote peace, justice and humanitarian action
  - reduce poverty and inequality, including gender inequalities
• **Security, Protracted Conflict, Refugee Crises and Forced Displacement**
  – Professor Mark Pelling, King’s College London, Department of Geography
  – Dr John Rees, British Geological Survey, Director, Earth Hazards & Observatories
  – Dr Neelam Raina, Middlesex University, Associate Professor
  – Dr Laura Hammond, SOAS University of London, department of development studies

• **Cities and Sustainable Infrastructure**
  – Dr Jaideep Gupte, Institute of Development Studies

• **Food Systems**
  – Professor Nicola Lowe, University of Central Lancashire
  – Dr Tahrat Shahid University of Oxford

• **Education**
  – Dr Kelsey Shanks, Ulster University

• **Global Health**
  – Dr Helen Fletcher, London School of Hygiene and Tropic Medicine
• Challenges identified and proposals developed & driven through equitable partnerships with on-the-ground collaborators

• The team is built in response to the identified challenge

• The approaches are identified and developed to tackle the challenge in a novel way
• What is the role of each partners in developing the proposal and delivering it?

• How does the work address a gap in overcoming the challenge?

• At what scale (temporal and spatial) can you realistically expect to deliver change?
• The research is of an internationally excellent standard

• The benefits of the research programme can be maintained once the project ends

• The planned activity develops the capacity of both the UK and LMIC partners to continue to deliver world-class research
• What country or countries are affected by the challenge you have identified?

• What communities are impacted by the challenge?

• How can you improve things through your research?

Be Specific
• Use the strengths of the UK and LMIC partners to address the challenge you have identified

• What has to happen for your research to lead to the change and how do you enable that to occur?

• Be specific about the potential for change – what is the scale of the impact you are likely to have? How transferable are your findings?
• Working with LMIC partners offers different challenges and opportunities for success
  • Milestones and objectives need to be realistic

• ODA obligations require more intensive oversight and due diligence than some other granting schemes

• Inter-disciplinary ≠ Multi-disciplinary
The Glasgow Strategy
Allocated GCRF Funding
The Glasgow Strategy - Objectives

- Development and support for resilient, equitable and innovative research partnerships with the Global South
- Skills development
- Support for Early Career Researchers (ECRs) in the UK and the Global South

Annex A

Annex A1: Template for institutional three-year GCRF strategies (AY 2018-19 onwards)

Please complete this form and the excel table in Annex A2. Text boxes may be expanded to the required length, and are expected to be in proportion to the level of formula Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF) allocations received in 2017-18. Please do not attach other documents or annexes. Guidance for completing the forms is at Annex B.

The completed form and table should be emailed to gbear@sgc.ac.uk by noon on Monday 26 March 2018.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of Institution</th>
<th>University of Glasgow</th>
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<tr>
<td>Contact person for correspondence who is also responsible for ensuring that the head of institution has approved this strategy for submission to SFC.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

- Name: Professor Jon Cooper
- Position: Vice Principal Innovation & Knowledge Exchange
- Address: Room 726, SSE College Office, Rankine Building, Glasgow G12 8LT
- Email: Jon.Coope@gla.ac.uk
- Phone: 0141 330 4931

Note that we intend to contact this person in the event of queries regarding the Institutional GCRF strategy. We will also contact this person annually as part of our GCRF monitoring process.

Has this GCRF strategy been approved for submission to SFC by the head of institution?

Yes

Name: Professor Sir Anton Muscatelli

Email address: principal@glasgow.ac.uk

Signature: [Signature]

The Glasgow Strategy - Activities

- Interdisciplinary collaborative research
- Pump priming
- Capacity strengthening/network support
- Research Capacity Strengthening
- Diversifying our partnerships
6 Types of Applications

- Research Projects
- Meetings and Exchanges
- Administrative support for existing research networks
- Capacity strengthening to build research, technical and administrative skills
- Fellowships
- Masters Scholarships
Developing your Application

- Start a conversation…and listen
- Develop ideas and proposals together
- Build a team that addresses the challenge – who do you need? How do they fit? How will you work together?
- Demonstrate understanding of the local context and history
- Collaborate with humility and respect
• You must talk to your College Research Support Team before April 12th about your intention to apply – they have your budget in their hands

• You will need a collaboration agreement with any partner you wish to send funds to – make sure they know this in advance

• It takes time to set up project budgets – you can start from Aug 1 but be realistic

• It takes time to hire people – plan for this

• Stay within the word limits

• No PAFs needed
Practicalities

• You can submit a maximum of 1 Fellowship or Masters application, 1 return visit, 1 other application
• Advance payments will take time and effort on the part of you and your partners
• Only 1 Lead Applicant per application
• Read the Highlight Notice
• Read the Highlight Notice again
• Engage
Filling out the Application

• **Follow the instructions**
  – Include names AND institutions for Co-Applicants
  – Meeting attendees, people attending training go in the Non Co-Applicant Project Beneficiaries list
  – How will you measure outcomes?
  – If we ask for information, please provide it – there aren’t any secret directions
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assessment Criteria</th>
<th>Nature of the challenge</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Project Summary and Objectives</td>
<td>Fit of the team/attendees/</td>
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<td>beneficiaries</td>
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<td>Feasibility</td>
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<td>Strength of Evaluation plan</td>
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<td>Interdisciplinarity</td>
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<td>Co-Applicant Roles/Non Co-</td>
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<td>Applicant Beneficiaries</td>
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<td>Timeline and Risk Mitigation/</td>
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<td>Justification of Resources</td>
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<td>Outputs and Outcomes</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Co-Applicants and their Roles</td>
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</table>
• Note the extra supporting documents required
• Nominated Masters students will also need a conditional offer from Glasgow by April 30th
• The fit of the nominee, Glasgow team, project and strategic potential
• Note the expenditure timelines – different from the other options
Return Visits

- Not intended to conduct further research/training/activity
- Focussed on telling people what you found out
- Can be for any previously funded work – not just small grants
• The Small Grants Fund is not meant to provide long-term funding for an ongoing programme of work

• If you are applying again:
  – What is different/new?
The Selection Process

- GCRF Coordination Group oversees the process
- Panels of 4 score each proposal
- Each panel has 1 member from each College
- Applications are scored from 0 (not eligible for funding) to 10 (absolutely must fund) by each panel member, along with a justification
- Scores are checked for panel differences in scoring, then collated and applications ranked by mean score
- Coordination Group meets and shortlists
- Final decisions: likely June (whenever the final allocation is posted)
Common Mistakes

• Lack of interdisciplinarity when it is clearly warranted
• Over ambitious
• Not challenge driven
• Failure to provide the requested information
• Assuming the impact/value/importance of the work is already well understood outside your discipline
• Not eligible
• Consider the panel – interdisciplinary
• Consider the challenges and be realistic – time is not your friend
• Build your budget around what the project needs, not how to spend the maximum amount
• Be open with your partners about what you both want from your project and how you will achieve it – it’s not just about a successful application, we want successful collaborations
• Outcomes and Impacts take many forms – think broadly
• Outcomes and Impact (against your planned outcomes/impact)
• DAC Countries involved
• Partner Organizations
• Project Summary
• Sustainability (what is coming next)
• Deviation from spend
• ODA Compliance
Where to get help

Mary Ryan: Mary.Ryan@glasgow.ac.uk

Join our mailing list: gcidadmin@glasgow.ac.uk

www.gla.ac.uk/gcid

@UofGGCID