**Internal Funding: UKRI-GCRF-Newton Mitigation Fund**

**Background**

The Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) and UKRI have provided an additional Official Development Assistance (ODA) allocation to reinvest in excellent UKRI Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF), Newton Fund programmes and other ODA (UKRI) projects to enable them to maximise development impact.

The University of Aberdeen has been awarded a grant of:

* GCRF/Newton: £200,000
* UKRI other ODA: £50,000

This block grant will fund activities up to 31 March 2023 at the latest.

Funds are available to support researchers who were unable to undertake or complete ODA-compliant activities planned as part of **active or closed GCRF, Newton or UKRI projects** **with existing partners** in DAC countries. The funds seek to help mitigate some of the disruption experienced due to funding cuts and Covid19 and support commencement of new follow-on, knowledge exchange or impact activities. **Activities must be ODA-compliant and must aim to maximise economic or social development impact for countries on the OECD DAC list.**

Innovate UK projects will be considered.UKRI awards that are/were not ODA compliant may still apply, so long as the primary objective of this activity is to achieve economic or social development impact for countries on the OECD DAC list. The funds can be used to allow translation of non-ODA research to achieve delivery of development impact.

Funds can be used to support activities to disseminate research findings, research activities or work packages including associated staff time, training, ongoing engagement with existing partners or networks to enable knowledge exchange (KE) and impact/impact capture. Funds can also be used to support the costs for development of demonstrators, prototypes, industry engagement and proof of concept. Funding can be distributed to existing research partners, including overseas institutions to carry out impact-related activities.

The fund will be managed by the Research Development Executives and impact team via the University of Aberdeen Grants Academy. We therefore invite applications to facilitate and enhance working in areas of relevance to UKRI/GCRF/Newton portfolios.

**Eligibility**

Funding can be utilised to maintain staffing, including early career researchers and post docs if a feasible route to enabling impact and of benefit to the professional development of the candidate.

Funds **cannot be used for GCRF QR, activities led by GCRF hubs, training grants, awards from Research Council block grants; or for scoping work or pilot projects**. This funding is primarily aimed at helping current or previous GCRF/Newton and UKRI grant holders to reinitiate or develop partnerships, knowledge exchange opportunities or to help realise impact.

In line with BEIS’s statement confirming that ODA funding will no longer be used to support partners from China beyond financial year 2022/2023 no new activity with China as a beneficiary or partner should be initiated through this fund. Proposals to work with Indian partners are welcome, but this must be in a partnership with a demonstrable primary focus on delivering benefit to countries outside of India on the OECD DAC list. Please note that Chile is no longer on the OECD DAC list and related projects will not be eligible.

**Level of Award**

Applications up to £10,000 are anticipated. Larger awards will be considered if a strong justification can be made. Please discuss your needs with your [Research](https://www.abdn.ac.uk/staffnet/research/contact-us/contact-us-10570.php) Development Executive in the first instance.

**Eligible Costs**

* Directly Allocated staff costs, plus associated indirect and estates costs
* Directly Incurred staff costs, plus associated indirect and estates costs
* Directly Incurred T&S
* Directly Incurred Other costs (to cover other expenses, workshops, consumables etc.)
* Other Directly Allocated costs

Equipment (over £10k) is not an eligible cost

**Dates of Eligible Spend**

We can fund activities to 31 March 2023 at the latest due to the terms of ODA funding. **We cannot prepay or commit funds for an activity/event that takes place after 31 March 2023.**

**Review**

Applications will be reviewed by email circulation. The process will be overseen by Committee comprised of an institutional Dean for Research, and representatives from Schools with research within ODA remit, along with Research and Innovation. There will also be additional input from the Directors of our five Interdisciplinary Centres (as appropriate) and additional representatives to ensure compliance with BEIS/UKRI expectations.

**Key Assessment Criteria**

To be eligible for this call, proposals must outline ODA-compliant activities with existing partners that aim to maximise economic or social development impact for countries on the OECD DAC list.

Highly rated and competitive proposals are likely to demonstrate one or more of the following characteristics:

* Builds on excellent research (from open or completed project).
* Consideration of the principles of [trusted research](https://www.ukri.org/about-us/policies-standards-and-data/good-research-resource-hub/trusted-research-and-innovation/), such as partner suitability, managing information and knowledge sharing for planned activities – if these have been covered in original project, please state this is the case.
* Benefit to overseas partners/stakeholders is clearly articulated and the need identified.
* Shows potential to significantly enhance existing overseas partnerships e.g. engaging with new audiences, strengthening existing engagement strategies.
* Shows potential to share skills, knowledge, techniques, and support best practice with overseas partner/ships.
* Beneficiaries and route to engagement and impact clearly identified as well as provisional steps for evaluation (contact [impact@abdn.ac.uk](mailto:impact@abdn.ac.uk) for more information).
* Demonstrates a clear and feasible route to achieve proposed outcomes and demonstrates how proposed activities underpin potential for impact.
* Considers mitigation measures e.g. participant drop-out, barriers to participants e.g. cost.
* Supports development opportunities for Early Career Researchers (ECRs) to undertake activities with potential for impact e.g. developing an engagement plan, taking part in KE activities.
* Delayed/disrupted activity: brief background or link to previous project. Confirmation that activity can still feasibly still take place, evidence of updated costing, expected outputs and potential for impact.
* Follow-on activity: brief background or link to previous project. Route and activity proposed, identification of beneficiaries and clarification if different from original project (e.g. if ethical approval needed), confirmation that activities can be undertaken in the time available, expected outputs and potential for impact.

**Ethics**

Where applicable, approval of the relevant ethics board is required as a condition of activities taking place.

**Reporting**

As a condition of this call we are required to capture and report on project-level and candidate-level data as part of our commitment to inclusion, equality and diversity. Please note that all data will be handled under the strictest confidence. We request that awardees help us to fulfil these reporting requirements by engaging fully with the impact/RDE team when requested. A brief final report on the activities undertaken and lessons learned, as well as a final expenditure statement, will also be required- we will share a proforma template for this purpose in January 2023.

Please note details of successful applications will be added to [Pure](https://www.abdn.ac.uk/staffnet/research/pure-14556.php) and other research-related users of the system would have access to information submitted. If you have any queries, or believe that your application should be treated as confidential, please contact the impact team to discuss.

**Internal Funding UKRI/GCRF/Newton Mitigation Fund**

**APPLICATION FORM**

Please submit this form by email to [grantsacademy@abdn.ac.uk](mailto:grantsacademy@abdn.ac.uk)

Deadline (open) - applications will be accepted on a rolling basis and the assessment panel will regularly review submissions in a timely manner. We expect all applications to be submitted by 30th November 2022 in the first instance.

If funds are still available after this time, we will consider applications up until 31st December 2022. Comments in italics are provided for guidance and should be deleted prior to submission of the application. The word limits are provided for guidance; however, the application should be no more than five pages (excluding the cost breakdown).

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| **Section 1: APPLICANT(S)** |
| **Name of lead applicant and any co-applicants:** |
| **Details of partner organisations:** |
| **School(s)/Institute(s):** |
| **Email address of lead applicant:** |
| **Written or verbal support provided by partner organisation (required)** |
| **Activities co-developed with partners and needs identified/costed? (required)** |
| **Fund applied for: GCRF/Newton  UKRI** |

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| **Section 2: PROJECT SUMMARY** |
| **Title:** |
| **Proposed Start and End Dates:**  **We can fund activities to 31 March 2023 at the latest due to the terms of BEIS/UKRI funding.** |
| **Summary (maximum 200 words):**  *Please provide a brief summary of the proposed work - in accessible language suitable for an informed, general readership.* |

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| **Section 3: ABERDEEN 2040 INTERDISCIPLINARY CHALLENGE AREAS** |
| Please select (X) one or more challenge area and SDGs, as applicable. |
| Energy Transition |
| Social Inclusion & Cultural Diversity |
| Environment & Biodiversity |
| Data & Artificial Intelligence |
| Health, Nutrition & Wellbeing |
| Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): |

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| **Section 4: CASE FOR SUPPORT** | | |
| **Project Description (maximum 400 words)**  *Please describe the proposed activities and where possible please indicate how the project will maximise economic or social development impact for countries on the OECD DAC list*. | | |
| **Project Timeline (maximum 150 words)**  *Please provide a brief timeline of proposed activities, including milestones.* | | |
| **Expected Outcomes**  *Outcomes from successful applications may include the following, please select all that apply.*  Dissemination of research outputs with networks/groups/communities  Translation of research outputs in the form of briefings, public engagement, showcasing events or creative outputs  Increased engagement or enhanced relationships with local, regional or national stakeholders e.g. policy makers, practitioners, third sector and community organisations and groups  Identification/ implementation of routes to enable continued or broader/deeper engagement beyond the immediate project  Leverage of further external funding  New capability, skillsets or capacity built across research team/partnerships  Increased opportunities for collaboration and impact e.g. establishing or nurturing beneficial long-term links to harness expertise, facilitating knowledge exchange between partners  Contributing towards institutional research capability and good practice overseas  Other (please give details) | | |
| **Impact (maximum 150 words)**  *Outline how you plan to demonstrate and evaluate impact. Describe impact of the proposed research on non-academic stakeholders (e.g. policy makers, business) where appropriate.*  *Indicate benefits to research partners/partner organisations and/or their stakeholders.* | | |
| **Section 5: COST BREAKDOWN** | | |
| Please complete tables A and B below. In table A, please detail the funds requested from the internal fund.  In table B, please specify any matched funding from other sources if applicable.  Please contact your pre-award costing accountant for any project staff costings. | | |
| ***A. FUNDS REQUESTED FROM* Internal UKRI/GCRF/Newton Mitigation Fund** | | |
| **BUDGET HEADING** | **DESCRIPTION** | **AMOUNT (£)** |
| **Project staff** | *Name/Post, Grade / point / %FTE* |  |
| **Academic time** |  |  |
| **Travel** |  |  |
| **Third party costs** | *e.g. sub-contractors or consultants* |  |
| **Other** | *Detail:* |  |
| **Indirect cost** |  |  |
| ***Total amount requested from the internal fund*** | |  |

If you have any other funds available to use on this project, please complete table B.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| ***B. ADDITIONAL PROJECT COSTS NOT REQUESTED FROM Internal Funds*** | | |
| **COST DESCRIPTION** | **SOURCE OF FUNDING** | **AMOUNT (£)** |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
|  |  |  |
| ***Total amount funded from other sources*** | |  |

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| **Section 6: ENDORSEMENT BY HEAD OF SCHOOL - OR HEAD OF INSTITUTE** | | |
| The Head of School of the lead applicant should endorse the application. In doing so they agree to take responsibility for provision of the necessary facilities and undertake to ensure timely reporting by the applicant.  *For cross-School/ Institute applications, endorsement from all Heads is required.*  *A copy of email confirmation of endorsement is acceptable.* | | |
| Name | Signature | Date |
| **Signature of Lead Applicant** | | |
| Name | Signature | Date |

**DIVERSITY MONITORING FORM**

The University values and recognises the benefits of its diverse workforce and welcomes and encourages applications from all sections of the community. Gaining information on the diversity profile of applicants and the workforce is important to the University so that the effectiveness of Diversity Policies can be measured, and compliance requirements can be met. Therefore, please support us by completing the following questionnaire. Please be assured that the data you supply will be used for monitoring purposes only and will not be viewed by selection panels. By providing the requested information you are consenting to its use as stated in this paragraph.

**Personal Details**

**First Forename: Other Forename(s):**

**Surname: Known As:**   
**Nationality: Date of Birth:**

**Equal Opportunities Details**

**Please mark with an “X” the boxes which describe you**

**1a I am:** Female  Male  Other

**1b Is your gender identity the same as the gender you were originally assigned at birth:**

YES NO  PREFER NOT TO DISCLOSE

**2. Marital Status:**

Single  Married  Civil Partnership

Co-habiting  Separated  Divorced

Widowed  Prefer not to disclose

**3. Please note the following are the main classification categories used by the Census 2011. Please specify how you would describe your ethnic origin if this differs from the choices given:**

White -British  Asian or Asian ~British Bangladeshi  
 White Irish  Chinese  
 White Scottish  Other Asian Background  
 Irish Traveller  Mixed White and Black Caribbean

Other White Background  Mixed White and Black African  
 Black or Black British Caribbean  Mixed White and Asian  
 Black or Black British African  Other Mixed backgrounds  
 Other Black background  Other Ethnic background   
 Asian or Asian British Indian  Asian or Asian British Pakistani

Arab  Not Known

Prefer not to disclose  
  
If other, please specify ……………………………………………………………………………….

**4. I belong to the following religion, religious body or denomination:**

No religion  Buddhist  Any other religion or belief  
 Sikh  Hindu  Christian Church of Scotland  
 Spiritual  Jewish  Christian Roman Catholic  
 Muslim  Christian other denomination  Prefer not to say

**5. My sexual orientation is:**

Bisexual  Gay man  Gay woman/lesbian  
 Heterosexual  Other  Prefer not to disclose

**6. I have a disability:**

YES  NO  PREFER NOT TO DISCLOSE

Please describe your disability:

Two or more impairments  Physical impairment or mobility issues  
 Specific learning disability  Deaf or serious hearing impairment  
 General learning disability  Blind or serious visual impairment  
 Long standing illness or health condition  Mental health condition

Other type of disability  
 A social/communication impairment such as Asperger’s syndrome/autistic spectrum disorder  
 Prefer not to disclose

**7. Would you describe yourself as a carer?**

(A carer is defined as anyone who cares, unpaid, for a friend or family member who due to illness, disability (including mental health issues) or an addiction cannot cope without their support. Examples of the duties carers may undertake include household tasks (e.g. cooking/cleaning), personal care (bathing, dressing, administering medication) and/or providing emotional support.)

YES  NO  PREFER NOT TO DISCLOSE