OXFORD ESRC GCRF POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIPS 2016

BRIEFING FOR APPLICANTS

11-12.30, SSD, 15.07.2016

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GCRF in short..

|| GCRF is a £1.5 billion fund to be delivered by the Research Councils 2016-21 to:

- **||** address complex societal challenges through supporting frontier interdisciplinary research and innovation;
- **||** address the problems faced by developing countries whilst developing our ability to deliver cutting-edge research
- **||** open up new opportunities to advance agendas for sustainable development, eradicate poverty, combat inequalities and strengthen global governance
- **||** build capacity and capability in interdisciplinary approaches for the future;
- **||** provide agile responses to sudden emergencies or new opportunities requiring interdisciplinary solutions.

|| In 2016-17, ESRC is working with 5 Doctoral Training Centres, putting 2.5M into 25 one-year postdoctoral fellowships

ESRC DTC GCRF POSTDOCTORAL PILOT- WHO CAN APPLY?

- Applicants must have graduated with a DPhil from Oxford.

- Applicants are eligible for funding whether or not they are currently members of the University.

- Applicants who are not currently members will be accommodated by the University and provided with appropriate facilities to carry out the research.

- At the time of submission, applicants must either have a DPhil or have passed their viva voce with only minor corrections.

- The awards are restricted to those with **no more than three years** active postdoctoral experience at the start date of the award. Active postdoctoral experience is defined as that accomplished between the viva voce being passed and the proposed start date of the fellowship.

ESRC AND ODA

- To date, DFID has been main disburser of ODA funds. In the current Spending Review period significant ODA funding is under the responsibility of other departments, including BIS.

- ESRC already have existing ODA funding programmes (eg. joint calls with DFID)

- All seven Councils are partners in the **Newton Fund**, a BIS-led ODA funding initiative intended to strengthen research and innovation partnerships between the UK and emerging knowledge economies

- All seven Councils are partners in the new **Global Challenges Research Fund** (GCRF), both through individual allocations and through a common pot, to be managed by RCUK

Official Development Assistance (ODA)

- Definition agreed in **1969** by the OECD DAC (Development Assistance Committee)

- ODA is the key measure used in most **aid targets** and assessments of **aid performance**.

- **1970** most DAC members agreed to long term objective of **0.7% ODA target**.

- **2004 UK govt**. set target to achieve 0.7% by 2013.

ODA definition

Formally ODA is defined as "those flows to developing countries* which are:

▌▌ provided by official agencies, including state and local governments, or by their executive agencies; and

▌▌ each transaction of which:

   ▌▌ is administered with the promotion of the economic development and welfare of developing countries as its main objective; and

*Countries and territories on the OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC) List of ODA recipients. Source of definition: http://www.oecd.org/dac/stats/officialdevelopmentassistancedefinitionandcoverage.htm

- Updated every **3 years**
- Based on World Bank – **GNI per capita**

- 2014 - Anguilla and Saint Kitts & Nevis graduated

- 2017 – Antigua & Barbuda, Chile, Uruguay, Argentina & Venezuela will graduate if remain high-income countries.

DAC List of ODA Recipients
Effective for reporting on 2014, 2015 and 2016 flows

Least Developed Countries	Other Low Income Countries (per capita GNI <= $1 045 in 2013)	Lower Middle Income Countries and Territories (per capita GNI $1 046-$4 125 in 2013)	Upper Middle Income Countries and Territories (per capita GNI $4 126-$12 745 in 2013)
Afghanistan	Democratic People's Republic of Korea	Armenia	Albania
Angola	Kenya	Bolivia	Algeria
Bangladesh	Tajikistan	Cabo Verde	Antigua and Barbuda[2]
Benin	Zimbabwe	Cameroon	Argentina
Bhutan		Congo	Azerbaijan
Burkina Faso		Côte d'Ivoire	Belarus
Burundi		Egypt	Belize
Cambodia		El Salvador	Bosnia and Herzegovina
Central African Republic		Georgia	Botswana
Chad		Ghana	Brazil
Comoros		Guatemala	Chile[2]
Democratic Republic of the Congo		Guyana	China (People's Republic of)
Djibouti		Honduras	Colombia
Equatorial Guinea[1]		India	Cook Islands
Eritrea		Indonesia	Costa Rica
Ethiopia		Kosovo	Cuba
Gambia		Kyrgyzstan	Dominica
Guinea		Micronesia	Dominican Republic
Guinea-Bissau		Moldova	Ecuador
Haiti		Mongolia	Fiji
Kiribati		Morocco	Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
Lao People's Democratic Republic		Nicaragua	Gabon
Lesotho		Nigeria	Grenada
Liberia		Pakistan	Iran
Madagascar		Papua New Guinea	Iraq
Malawi		Paraguay	Jamaica
Mali		Philippines	Jordan
Mauritania		Samoa	Kazakhstan
Mozambique		Sri Lanka	Lebanon
Myanmar		Swaziland	Libya
Nepal		Syrian Arab Republic	Malaysia
Niger		Tokelau	Maldives
Rwanda		Ukraine	Marshall Islands
Sao Tome and Principe		Uzbekistan	Mauritius
Senegal		Viet Nam	Mexico
Sierra Leone		West Bank and Gaza Strip	Montenegro
Solomon Islands			Montserrat
Somalia			Namibia
South Sudan			Nauru
Sudan			Niue
Tanzania			Palau
Timor-Leste			Panama
Togo			Peru
Tuvalu			Saint Helena
Uganda			Saint Lucia
Vanuatu[1]			Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Yemen			Serbia
Zambia			Seychelles
			South Africa
			Suriname
			Thailand
			Tonga
			Tunisia
			Turkey
			Turkmenistan
			Uruguay[2]
			Venezuela
			Wallis and Futuna

(1) The United Nations General Assembly resolution 68/L.20 adopted on 4 December 2013 decided that Equatorial Guinea will graduate from the least developed country category three and a half years after the adoption of the resolution and that Vanuatu will graduate four years after the adoption of the resolution.

(2) Antigua and Barbuda, Chile and Uruguay exceeded the high income country threshold in 2012 and 2013. In accordance with the DAC rules for revision of this List, all three will graduate from the List in 2017 if they remain high income countries until 2016.

What counts as ODA?

*"**Research** includes financing by the official sector, whether in the donor country or elsewhere, of research into the problems of developing countries."*

Directives also include references to:
- In-donor / developing country based scholarships
- training and research including language training
- collaborative research between donor and recipient universities and organisations
- development-oriented social and cultural programmes
- *ad hoc* contributions such as conferences, seminars and workshops, exchange visits, publications, etc.

Application process

▌▌ Closing date 16.00, 09.09.16.

▌▌ All applications must have all 9 required attachments merged into one pdf file.

▌▌ Email application to **esrc_gcrf@socsci.ox.ac.uk**

▌▌ **All applications will be read and assessed by a panel of reviewers.**

▌▌ **Decisions announced by 10.10.16**

Assessment Criteria

1. **Significance**
   Does the proposal make a genuinely significant contribution in its area of study?
   Is there similar work or related work not specified in the proposal, of which the applicant should be aware?

2. **Workload, Timetable**
   Is the workload and specified objectives achievable and realistic within the time allocated?

3. **Mentoring and Departmental Support**
   Does the application demonstrate evidence of a strongly supportive mentor and host department?

4. **Value for Money**
   Are the equipment, travel and other costs necessary? Does the proposal offer good value for   money?

5. **Outputs, Impact and Public Engagement**
   Is the planned output during the fellowship appropriate and attainable?
   Has the applicant made adequate plans to share results and engage with academic and non-academic audiences?

6. **Research Ethics**
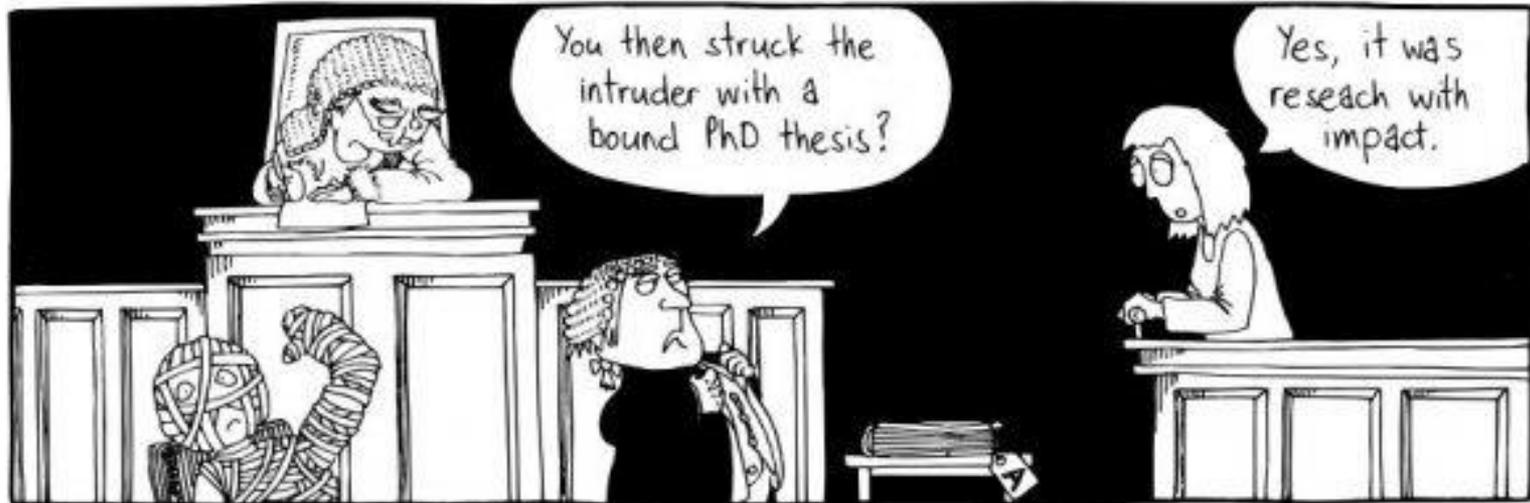   *Does the proposal show sufficient awareness of any ethical issues ?*

7. **ODA Compliance**
   Does the proposal address the ODA requirements of this call?

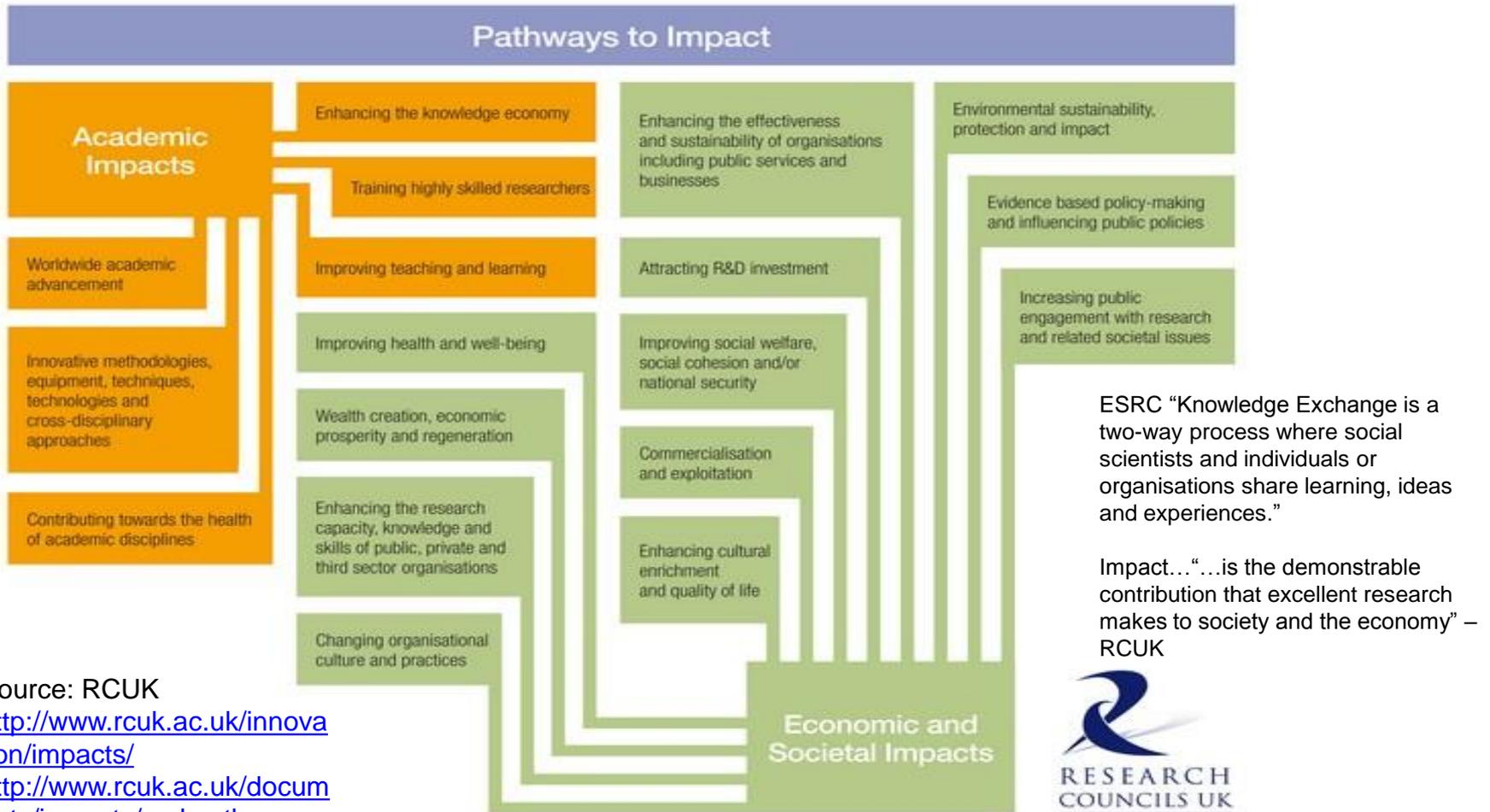# If you only take away one message…

- *It is the importance of the proposed research and dissemination activities being "directly and primarily relevant to the problems of developing countries may be counted as ODA"*

- *But.."the costs may still be counted as ODA if the research is carried out in a developed country."*

- ESRC expects…ODA compliance, engagement with non-academic audiences, collaboration with users eg through placements, overseas institutional visits, international networking, publications, developing research skills etc..

- Still not sure? Just get in touch…**esrc_gcrf@socsci.ox.ac.uk**

Research Impact

What is impact?

Pathways to Impact

Academic Impacts
- Worldwide academic advancement
- Innovative methodologies, equipment, techniques, technologies and cross-disciplinary approaches
- Contributing towards the health of academic disciplines
- Enhancing the knowledge economy
- Training highly skilled researchers
- Improving teaching and learning
- Improving health and well-being
- Wealth creation, economic prosperity and regeneration
- Enhancing the research capacity, knowledge and skills of public, private and third sector organisations
- Changing organisational culture and practices

- Enhancing the effectiveness and sustainability of organisations including public services and businesses
- Attracting R&D investment
- Improving social welfare, social cohesion and/or national security
- Commercialisation and exploitation
- Enhancing cultural enrichment and quality of life

- Environmental sustainability, protection and impact
- Evidence based policy-making and influencing public policies
- Increasing public engagement with research and related societal issues

Economic and Societal Impacts

ESRC "Knowledge Exchange is a two-way process where social scientists and individuals or organisations share learning, ideas and experiences."

Impact…"…is the demonstrable contribution that excellent research makes to society and the economy" – RCUK

RESEARCH COUNCILS UK

Source: RCUK
http://www.rcuk.ac.uk/innovation/impacts/
http://www.rcuk.ac.uk/documents/impacts/rcukpathwayspresentation-pdf/

Impact elements included in this call

- **Engaging with academic and non-academic audiences to communicate the research findings that have come from your doctorate** e.g.
  - Think about appropriate outlets and channels e.g. face-to-face, online, written, spoken etc
  - Think about it from their individual perspectives – what is important to them, how can your research results help them in their work/need (see template later on)
- **Build international networks with both academic and user audiences to develop impact opportunities and inform/support future development of their research**
  - Stakeholder analysis can be useful exercise especially when time is short and you need to prioritise which relationships to cultivate
  - How are you going to reach the right people? How best can you reach out and build strong networks that can lead to impact? How will you maintain these contacts?
  - What training in language skills or cultural awareness do you need in order to be able to build strong networks internationally?
- **Collaborate with users through an internship or placement to help develop your professional and transferrable skills and understanding of users' organisations and their needs**
  - Do you have existing contacts with an organisation that could host you? Think about how you might collaborate with them to shape a mutually beneficial work programme.

ODA requirements informing impact aims

Questions from ODA compliance (attachment 8)

- Which country/ countries on the DAC list will directly benefit from this proposal?
- How is your proposal directly and primarily relevant to the development challenges of these countries?
- How do you expect that the outcome of your proposed activities will promote the economic development and welfare of a country or countries on the DAC list?

- These questions will help you to determine the geographic scope of your fellowship and the development challenge you are trying to address and intended outcomes. This will inform your choice of stakeholders, knowledge exchange activities and your impact aims.

- You should develop networks in the DAC country/ies you are focusing on and also with the international development community working in those areas to maximise potential impact.

Identifying potential audiences and users

❚❚ Deciding on initial aims can help focus on right groups

❚❚ Public sector, business, civil society, public/community

❚❚ Choosing appropriate level e.g. national policy-makers, local businesses

❚❚ Choosing appropriate people e.g. those that have enough decision-making power but also have time to commit

❚❚ Use existing networks available to you

❚❚ Make the most of conferences

❚❚ Useful stakeholder analysis template

http://www.fasttrackimpact.com/#!resources/bt6xl

Ideas of activities for communicating your research and engaging with stakeholders

Planning impact pathways and activities

Table 1 Bayley, Hitchins and Ryall, 2015 http://blogs.coventry.ac.uk/researchblog/arm2impact/

PROBLEM (social, economic or environmental issue on which the project is based):				
Who? (stakeholders, beneficiaries, users)	Their issue (their 'part' of the problem)	Impact (the change needed)	Their need (what do they need to make change?)	Activity (how will they be reached?)

Hints and Tips for Impact

- Where possible involve end users from the outset and also look at broader beneficiary groups

- Tailor activities to the beneficiaries and aims. Be specific about activities and deliverables

- Creativity and innovative approaches can be good but need to be appropriate and well explained

- Show that you understand the potential challenges and have thought of ways round them

- Be culturally sensitive and include training to prepare yourself to increase chances of successful interactions

- Don't be over ambitious! Don't overdo your track record, it is ok to bring in specialists and good to include training.

Where to get ideas

- ESRC Impact Toolkit - http://www.esrc.ac.uk/research/impact-toolkit/

- Participation Compass - http://participationcompass.org/

- NCCPE - https://www.publicengagement.ac.uk/do-it/techniquesapproaches

- ESRC IAA projects http://www.socsci.ox.ac.uk/research/current-iaa-projects

- Social Sciences impact case studies http://www.socsci.ox.ac.uk/research/casestudies

- Oxford Impacts - http://www.ox.ac.uk/research/research-impact/impact-films

- NCUB - http://www.ncub.co.uk/success-stories.html