

GCRF/Newton Fund Agile Response Call to address COVID-19

In response to the fast-moving challenge presented by the Covid-19 crises, UK's Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) is launching a joint 'UKRI GCRF/Newton Fund Agile Response'. This call aims to help tackle current Covid-19 outbreak across [Low and Middle Income Countries \(LMICs\)](#). This exceptional joint response aims to leverage the respective strengths of both Newton & GCRF funds and the agile response delivery mechanism of GCRF.

What this call is about:

UKRI is inviting proposals for short-term projects addressing and mitigating the health, social, economic, cultural and environmental impacts of the COVID-19 outbreak in Low and Middle Income Countries.

UKRI will support excellent proposals which meet at least one of the following:

- New research or innovation with a clear pathway to impact on policy or practice that has the potential (within the period of the award) to deliver a significant contribution to the understanding of, response to, and recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic in a developing country context.
- Supports the manufacture and/or wide scale adoption of an intervention with significant potential for impact in developing countries.
- Gathers critical data and resources quickly for future research use.

Who can apply:

- Applying from within the UK
Proposals will be accepted by anyone based in a UK Research Organisation (RO) [eligible to receive funding from UKRI Research Councils](#) or based in approved Research Organisations overseas (see applying from overseas, below). This **does not** include companies or SMEs that would be eligible to receive Innovate UK funding. It is expected that proposals will engage equitably with research organisations, other organisations, and communities in the partner countries or LMIC countries where impact will be delivered. Proposals must have a minimum of one LMIC Co-Investigator and where possible we would expect involvement of Co-Investigators from the country/ countries in which the study is situated.
- Applying from outside the UK
We strongly encourage applicants from LMIC countries to apply to and participate in this call. LMIC country Principal Investigators from an organisation **that lead or have previously led and held UKRI grants** and have undergone [Je-S registration](#) and due diligence checks are eligible to be lead applicants for this call. The LMIC-based organisation must be able to receive and

manage funds from UKRI via a grant and must ensure their application complies with local regulations and has the necessary local approvals.

UKRI GCRF grant holders:

Researchers holding existing UKRI GCRF grants should in the first instance consider whether they could repurpose that funding to address the objectives of this call. You can [apply to switch your existing funding here](#). Repurposing your existing grant is the quickest way to start the research.

Eligible countries: This call applies to all OECD DAC-listed countries.

Project length: projects must be complete within 18 months of the call launch date. Applicants must show that they can start work within 4 weeks of the funding being confirmed.

How much is the grant: There is no specific ceiling for the grant. UKRI is seeking to fund research of any scale that can demonstrate it will deliver impact during the lifetime of the project.

Deadline for applications: There is no closing date for the call. However, applicants are advised to apply as soon as possible because proposals will be evaluated immediately after they're submitted. Once all available funds are allocated to projects, UKRI will stop receiving further applications.

How to apply:

To apply you need to:

1. Fill in the [proposal application form \(Word, 53KB\)](#)

All proposals must utilise the provided form and be accompanied by:

- The regulatory requirements annex that forms part of the application form.
 - An **optional** document of supporting figures, GANTT chart and/or data tables (no more than **1xA4** page). If this is included, applications must be collated into a single pdf in the following order - Form plus Annex, Document of supporting figures, GANTT chart and/or data tables
2. [Email your single PDF to UKRI GCRFCV19](#)
 - Please ensure you set out clearly answers to all questions asked on the form, as incomplete proposals will be rejected.
 - Receipt will be acknowledged within 2 working days and in most circumstances, PIs will have an initial response on the proposal within 10 working days.

For more information on Call guidelines, please [Link here](#).

Please review [ODA compliance](#) and [Gender Equality](#) guidance.

If you have any questions/queries please feel free to email us at newton.mosharafa@fco.gov.uk or contact UKRI directly at GCRFCV19@ukri.org