GCRF Workshops 2019 – Call for applications

Background

The University of Kent is hosting a global challenges conference in July 2019 on the theme of ‘resilience’.

In the lead up to the conference we will be supporting a series of workshops. These are intended to explore three broad themes that will form the framework of the conference:

1. Preparing for a Changing Environment (PCE)
2. Sustainable Tourism and Heritage (STH)
3. Improving Health and Wellbeing (IHW)
4. Development through Higher Education (DHE)
5. Governance and Resilience in Wider Eurasia (GRE)

It is important that those with a close understanding of the issues are the ones who identify the focus of the workshops. They have a knowledge of the area, can identify the problems, and have links with partners that can lead to potential solutions.

To this end we are offering funding to support consortia to run individual workshops within one of the three themes.

Ideally, the workshops should take place in the appropriate DAC list country, and must lead to a session at the GCRF Conference 2019. These will act as a stage on which the questions, ideas and collaborations generated can be shared with others, who can comment and contribute to them and thereby make the outputs stronger and more robust.

The call is running in parallel with the GCRF Partnership Fund, which aims to fund a wider range of collaborative activity.
Eligibility

The GCRF Conference Workshops call is open to all academics, researchers, postgraduate research students and professional service staff based at the University.

At least one participant of the workshop must be available to take part in the GCRF Conference 2019. As part of the award, funding will be made available for up to two members of the workshop (excluding the Kent member) to travel to the Conference and stay at the University.

ODA Compliance

To be ODA compliant, all activity must directly and primarily benefit the economic and social problems faced by developing countries on the OECD’s Development Assistance Committee (DAC) list.

Questions to consider when writing the ODA compliance statement:

- Is the project addressing the economic development and welfare of the country in question?
- Are the countries involved on the DAC List of ODA Recipients (the Development Assistant Committee of the OECD)?
- Is there a development need that my project or activity is addressing?
- Is this credible or is there evidence of the need?
- How would this project or activity be applied in the country?
- What would the impact of my project or activity be, and who would benefit?
- How does my project or activity contribute to sustainable development?
- Would this lead to a reduction in poverty in a developing country?
- What would success for this activity look like?
- How would success or impact be measured?

Funding available

There is a total of £100,000 available for the 2019 Kent GCRF Conference Workshops call. There is no upper limit to how much can be applied for, but value for money will be an assessment criterion.
Deadlines

The deadline for submissions is **Monday 14 January 2019**. Decisions will be made by the end of the month.

How to apply

All applications must use this form (Word). They must be submitted by 4pm on the deadline date.

Applications should be sent as an attachment to globalchallenges@kent.ac.uk

Assessment process

The applications will be assessed by a panel appointed by the Kent GCRF Advisory Board. It will comprise the Theme Leads, Associate Deans for Research, the Dean of the Graduate School, and members of Research Services.

- The academic members will assess the quality of the proposal, and **whether the proposed workshop is a good ‘fit’ with the themes and the Conference**;
- Research Services will assess compliance with ODA and GCRF funding rules.

Applications will be ranked using the assessment criteria below, using this form (Excel). This will be regardless of the amount requested. Those that have been most highly ranked will be funded, up to the limit for the scheme.

The assessment process is intended to be light touch and quick. Applicants will be informed of the outcome by the end of January.

Assessment criteria

The panel will use the following criteria:

1. ODA Compliance
2. Eligibility of the applicant
3. Fit with the aims of the GCRF, namely:
   a) To promote challenge-led disciplinary and interdisciplinary research, including the participation of researchers who
may not previously have considered the applicability of their work to development issues;
b) To strengthen capacity for research, innovation and knowledge exchange in the UK and developing countries through partnership with excellent UK research and researchers;
c) To provide an agile response to emergencies where there is an urgent research need.

4. Fit with the three specified themes of the conference.
5. Whether the workshop takes place in a DAC list country. Priority will be given to those that are.
6. Alignment with UN Sustainable Development Goals appropriate for the ODA nations involved.
7. Link to the Kent Global Challenge Doctoral Centre (GCDC).
8. Plausibility of the workshop being successful.
9. Value for money.

Where possible, feedback will be given to unsuccessful applicants.

**Award of the grant**

The grant will be given in the form of a budgetary adjustment to the applicant’s school. This means that it will be a specified item on the school’s budget, and it will be up to the individual school to manage it. **The funding must be spent by the end of June 2019, and at least one participant must be able to take part and lead a session at the GCRF Conference 2019.**

**Reporting on the project**

The applicant will be asked to provide a short report on the project using this [form](#) (Word).

**Further information**

For specific questions contact the Global Challenges Officer at globalchallenges@kent.ac.uk. More information on the GCRF is available [here](#).