BUILDING A RESILIENT RESEARCH ENVIRONMENT IN SOUTH EAST ASIA

23-24 May 2019, VNU-HUS, Hanoi, Vietnam
I am delighted to welcome everyone to this special event. Unusually for an academic conference, you are meeting not to push forward the boundaries of knowledge within a specific discipline but to explore how to organise and support yourselves to create better research cooperation – and thus push forward the boundaries of knowledge across a wide range of disciplines.

Building a Resilient Research Environment is taking place thanks to an initiative by the UK Government, the Global Challenges Research Fund. The GCRF was set up to support cutting-edge research that addresses the challenges faced by developing countries. The University of Kent has been committed to the GCRF since its start and its objectives very much play to our strengths. We are international in our outlook and believe in the promotion of challenge-led disciplinary and interdisciplinary research.

Kent is currently engaged in two major research projects in South East Asia:

a The OSIRIS Project, led by Professor Maria Paola Scaparra, is applying mathematical modelling techniques to optimise transport infrastructure planning in Vietnam.

b The SEARC Project, led by Professor Colin Robinson, is developing new approaches to the mass production of vaccines for Thailand and the wider South East Asia region.

Our experience of working with our partners on these projects has shown that, while there is an urgent need for more research funding in the region, better knowledge of the international funding landscape and of the specific requirements attached to securing and then managing research grants would be beneficial. This conference responds to that experience in assisting colleagues in South East Asia to establish research management systems and to access international research funding, thereby developing their research capacity and helping to address the UN Sustainable Development Goals – as well as enhancing the sustainability of the projects themselves.

I hope that through the talks, workshops and networking activities over the next day and a half, you will leave with an increased knowledge of the range of available UK research funds; how to maximise the chance of success; and how the University of Kent and South East Asian institutions can build strong and sustainable partnerships for the future.

Finally, my sincere thanks to our workshop hosts; Prof Nguyễn Văn Nơi and the VNU University of Science. Without their valued support and continued collaboration this workshop would not have been possible.
Firstly, it is my great pleasure to welcome all of the delegates to the “Building a Resilient Research Environment” co-organized by the University of Kent and VNU University of Science.

Building a Resilient Research Environment which is generously supported by GCRF is really a great event with main focus on promoting multidisciplinary research for the challenges in developing countries. In Vietnam, with the rapid development of socio-economy, many issues at national level have arisen such as climate change, transportation, land management, environmental pollution. Hence, there is an inevitable need of scientific solutions to tackle the hot issues of this country.

As the Rector of VNU University of Science, I would like to inform all of you that our university is the number one institution in Vietnam in basic sciences. We are currently ranked 124th in Asia. VNU University of Science is strongly active in fostering international cooperation with many partners from Europe, USA and Asia... Currently, VNU University of Science has 07 research centers, 01 national key laboratory, and 05 VNU key laboratories whose main directions are on multidisciplinary areas such as green growth, food safety, bioenergy... That is why HUS is very honoured to host this workshop, an excellent event that fits perfectly to our research focuses.

I would also like to welcome international delegates as well as the scientists from many institutions in Vietnam attending the workshop over next two days. I believe this is a great forum for participants to exchange ideas, discover opportunities for collaboration in multidisciplinary researches.

Lastly, I would to thank you all the delegates for coming to the “Building a Resilient Research Environment”. I wish our international guests will have a pleasant stay in Hanoi. I wish all of you good health and success.

Nguyen Van Noi
Rector
INTRODUCTION TO THE WORKSHOP

As the Vice-Chancellor mentioned in her introduction, the University of Kent is extremely proud of our high-profile research projects in South East Asia, and there is more detail of the OSIRIS Project and the SEARC project later in this programme. We want to use these projects as stepping-stones to form new collaborations within the region, with the aim of carrying out impactful research that addresses the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

Our experience of working with our partners on these projects, however, has shown that while they urgently need more research funding, they may lack knowledge of the international funding landscape and of the specific requirements attached to securing and managing research grants. The UK’s Global Challenges Research Fund, which has made £1.5 billion available for such partnerships, is an example of the huge opportunities now available for international collaborations aimed at achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

Why is research management and administration (RMA) important?

Good research management and administration is crucial for research around the world, and South East Asia is no different in its need for professional support for researchers. It helps researchers access new funding, navigate complex rules and procedures, disseminate their findings to those who will most benefit from them, and develop international partnerships. It also provides reassurance to donors and research funders that their funds are being well used, and thereby increases external confidence and trust in the researchers and their institutions.

In addition, it allows talented researchers to focus on their research rather than being tied up with management and administration. Studies in the US have shown that researchers spend around 40% of their time doing administration associated with research, rather than the research itself. While some of this is unavoidable, it is imperative that researchers are fully supported so that they can concentrate on their research.

To address this, with the support from our colleagues from VNU, the University of Kent is running this workshop aimed at both academics and research management and administration professionals.

Through a series of talks, structured workshops and networking activities, delegates will leave with an increased knowledge of:

- The range of UK research funds that are available to them;
- How they can maximise their chances of success in applying for funding; and,
- How the University of Kent and SEA institutions can build strong and sustainable partnerships for the future.

The University of Kent is known internationally for its leadership in the development of research management and administration as a profession. We have contributed to and led RMA development workshops around the world including across Europe, North America, Southern Africa, Australia, and Japan.

As well as our national UK association, the Association of Research Managers and Administrators (ARMA), we play an active role in EARMA (the European association), NCURA and SRAI (two US associations), and INORMS, the International Network of Research Management Societies.

We are also leading the international INORMS sponsored Research Administration As A Profession (RAAAP) Taskforce exploring the characteristics of RMA professionals around the world.

Longer term, a Vietnamese or even a South East Asian research management and administration association could be envisioned. We hope that this event will be a small stepping-stone towards that vision, and hope to continue to work with you to help realise it.

Simon Kerridge
Director of Research Services
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@SimonRKerridge

RMA is a global profession – start building your network of contacts now: https://inorms.net/
Global Challenges Research Fund

The Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF) is a £1.5 billion fund announced by the UK Government in late 2015 to support cutting-edge research that addresses the challenges faced by developing countries. Alongside the other GCRF delivery partners UKRI is creating complementary programmes that:

- 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
- strengthen capacity for research, innovation and knowledge exchange in the UK and developing countries through partnership with excellent UK research and researchers
- provide an agile response to emergencies where there is an urgent research need.

GCRF forms part of the UK’s Official Development Assistance (ODA) commitment, which is monitored by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).

GCRF has three challenge areas, which are a vision for change and not intended to constrain innovative approaches in other areas that also address these aims.

- Equitable Access to Sustainable Development
- Sustainable Economies and Societies
- Human Rights, Good Governance and Social Justice

GCRF supports excellent research that addresses a significant problem or development challenge, directly contributing to the sustainable and inclusive prosperity of people in developing countries. However, the challenges facing societies and individuals across the globe are often complex, protracted and multi-faceted and cut across the three areas above. The Fund is well placed to address these complex issues given the size of the fund, its challenge led approach and broad remit.

The Newton Fund

The Fund was launched in 2014 and originally consisted of £75 million each year for five years. It was extended from 2019 to 2021 and the annual investment was doubled to £150 million. The total UK investment of £735 million is match funded by partner countries.

The Newton Fund activities offered in each country are chosen and developed in collaboration with local government and funders. This ensures the programmes offered meet local development priorities.

The partner countries to work with the UK government include: Brazil, Chile, China, Colombia, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Malaysia, Mexico, Peru, Philippines, South Africa, Thailand, Turkey and Vietnam.

The Newton Fund covers three broad activities:

- People: increasing capacity in science and innovation, individually and institutionally in partner countries.
- Research: research collaborations on development topics.
- Translation: creating collaborative solutions to development challenges and strengthening innovation systems.

The Fund is being delivered through seven UK funders, including the research councils, and 87 in-country funding partners. They develop and run calls, and allocate and manage the money they receive as part of the Newton Fund.
Vietnam is one of the most hazard-prone countries in Asia. Riverine and coastal flooding represents one of the major natural risks faced by the country, due to its extended coastal areas, river basins and lakeshores. Overall, Vietnam is ranked globally as the country with the fourth highest exposure to flooding. In addition, climate change is exacerbating the intensity of extreme weather events, and rapid urbanisation is increasing the severity of the impacts. Impacts of urban flooding are felt on Vietnam’s economy at all levels. Central and city government budgets are impacted by sudden clean-up and infrastructural maintenance costs. Businesses are impacted by damage to their capital, disruptions to their operations, and shocks to their profits. Street traders and vendors, whose livelihoods are precarious and who have no financial safety nets, are financially and personally vulnerable. And households bear the greatest financial losses, from damage to their homes and assets, increasing costs of food in local markets, inability to travel to work, and difficulties in accessing services such children’s schools and health services.

Investment strategies for urban infrastructure are guided mainly by development and economic growth targets, as part of national development plans, by the influences of international finance institutions, and by sometimes competing sectoral priorities of government planning, construction and transportation departments. These influences lead to investments which are strategic, but not economically optimal in the context of rapid urbanisation and climate change. This project aimed to redress that balance, by introducing scientific methods of Operational Research (OR) to 1) analyse the impacts of flooding of urban transport systems on different levels of a city’s economy and society, and 2) identify cost-efficient investments in flood mitigation measures.

Hanoi, the capital of Vietnam, was selected as the project’s target city. The project involved the following tasks:

- **Identify gaps and inefficiencies** in current infrastructure investment and maintenance programmes, especially in relation to climate change and flooding issues that affect transport.
- **Build a set of future flood scenarios** affecting Hanoi, with their associated probability of occurrence based on rainfall predictions, historical data and climate change projections.
- **Develop qualitative approaches** to evaluate the impact of floods on local communities and the social benefit of avoiding flood damage to road infrastructure. Identify feasible flood-control measures and evaluate their cost and benefits.
- **Develop a multi-period optimisation model** for strategic, long-term planning of mitigation actions, which minimizes the impact of floods on Hanoi’s urban road networks over different flood scenarios. Propose a set of economic and sustainable strategies for investing in flood avoidance and damage mitigation that are robust to the twin challenges of climate change and rapid urbanization.
- **Apply the developed methodology** in Hanoi, and support local stakeholders to integrate the research results into future planning and interventions.

The project generated several key findings that have the potential to guide future infrastructure investment planning decisions in Hanoi and inform policy making at local and national level.

The social, economic and environmental impact assessment carried out with local communities in Hanoi’s central districts revealed that improving drainage systems remains the highest priority for communities, to reduce flood risk. It also highlighted that the impacts of urban flooding in Hanoi are felt most acutely and have the greatest economic and social impacts along roads. The assessment also revealed that the impacts of floods are highly gender-differentiated, with women facing greater conflicts between the need to maintain their incomes and the responsibilities of caring for vulnerable family members, resulting in increased levels of stress, and increasing risks to their health.
Based on the impact assessment findings and the flood maps generated by the Vietnamese project partners, an optimisation mathematical model was then developed to identify the most cost-effective interventions to carry out on the Hanoi drainage system to **reduce congestion on urban roads during floods and minimize infrastructure damage**. The resulting decision support system was also used to demonstrate the potential of OR to bring scientific rigour to decision-making in areas of policy and development practice in Vietnam which, until now, have been guided by less robust cost-benefit analysis combined with social, economic and political priorities.

The project has also had more intangible outcomes in terms of **raising awareness of the numerous sustainable development challenges to which OR can be applied**, raising interest and generating primary understanding of OR tools and methods, and forming a group of key stakeholder institutions who can take this interest forward.

The next step in the introduction to the use of OR in Vietnam will be to build knowledge and capacity of Vietnamese academic institutions, enabling a wider range of techniques to be developed and tested by Vietnamese mathematicians and management scientists based on national and local needs and context. The OR group at the University of Kent is currently looking for opportunities to initiate those capacity-building activities with Vietnamese and other Southeast Asian (SEA) academic institutions and support the development of a vibrant, independent, and resilient OR community in SEA countries.
A revolution in biotechnology is bringing us new types of drugs for diseases ranging from diabetes to cancer. Recombinant protein technology involves joining different pieces of DNA together in a cell such as a bacterium, inducing it to make particular proteins that can form the basis for advanced medicines (biopharmaceuticals) and vaccines.

Biopharmaceuticals are difficult and expensive to produce. Thailand currently imports all of its biopharmaceuticals, at great cost, which means that only a small minority of the population have access to anti-cancer and anti-inflammatory drugs that are routinely used in high-income countries. The Thai government has recently set up the National Biopharmaceutical Facility (NBF) at King Mongkut’s University of Technology Thonburi to address this problem.

Recombinant protein technology can also be used to produce vaccines. The swine farming industry in Thailand and neighbouring Southeast Asian countries has recently faced waves of recurrent and emerging viral attacks. Farmers combat these viruses with vaccination but most vaccines must be imported at high cost. Critically, many vaccines are ineffective due to mismatches between the imported vaccine and the local circulating strain. There is a clear need to create better vaccines that are matched to local markets.

The goal of this GCRF project, which started in October 2017, is for UK and Thai experts to work together to establish state of the art technical capacity for recombinant protein production by Thai groups, which can be expanded upon and consolidated for future growth. The teams are developing powerful production strains and also working on the associated downstream activities to ensure regulatory approval. The ultimate goal is to make low-cost, widely available medicines and animal vaccines. Therefore, this work will contribute towards UN Global Goals: No poverty (SDG1), Zero hunger (SDG2), Good health and well-being (SDG3), Industry, innovation and infrastructure (SDG9).

This project brings together Thai groups at the forefront of the country’s new programme to produce recombinant proteins, including scientists based at NBF and the National Center for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (BIOTEC), UK groups that have developed state of the art E. coli- and CHO cell-based expressed systems (University of Kent) as well as down-stream processing (UCL) and analytic tools (Imperial College), and Bangkok-based UK specialists in SE Asian healthcare, economic policies and dissemination tools (LSHTM). Training of researchers is a key element of the project, and there has already been a number of visits between Thai and UK labs within the first year of the project.

Although the initial transfer of technology will be between the UK and Thailand, there are structures built in to the project to facilitate the spread of expertise to other countries in South East Asia, such as Vietnam. Additionally, both the UK and the ASEAN countries should be able to benefit from the insights learned from trying to drive production costs for biopharmaceuticals and vaccines as low as possible.
ADDITIONAL GCRF AND NEWTON AWARDS AT KENT

International
ESRC GCRF Network (2016)
Legal Regulation of Unacceptable Forms of Work: Global Dialogue/Local Innovation
Investigator: Professor Judy Fudge – Kent Law School (KLS)
Partner: Dr Deirdre McCann – University of Durham, and Dr Shangeon Lee – International Labour Organisation (ILO)
Amount: £112,176
GCRF Hub (2019)
Trade, Development and Environment (TRADE)
Investigator: Professor Zoe Davies – School of Anthropology and Conservation (SAC)
Partner: The United Nations Environment Programme World Conservation Monitoring Centre
Amount: £402,722

Saudi Arabia
UK-Gulf Institutional Links (2017)
Developing new ceria based materials to address challenges in energy and the environment
Investigator: Dr Anna Corrias – School of Physical Sciences (SPS)
Partner: Professor Danyal Islam – King Abdullah University of Science and Technology, Saudi Arabia
Amount: £104,925

Malaysia
Researcher Links – Workshops (2016)
Enhancing Environmental Resilience in Expanding Oil Palm Landscapes: Setting Research Priorities and Fostering Networking Among Researchers and Stakeholders in Malaysia
Investigator: Dr Matt Struwig – School of Anthropology and Conservation (SAC)
Partner: Universiti Malaysia Sabah, Malaysia
Amount: £36,750
Institutional Links (2015)
Enhancing Environmental Resilience in Expanding Oil Palm Landscapes via Improved Design of Riparian Reserves, Malaysia
Investigator: Dr Matt Struwig – School of Anthropology and Conservation (SAC)
Partner: Dr Charles Vairappan – Universiti Malaysia Sabah, Malaysia
Amount: £84,601

China
Newton International Fellowships (2014)
Characterisation of Fluidisation Processes through Advanced Monitoring and Computational Modelling
Host: Professor Yong Yan – School of Engineering and Digital Arts (EDA)
Fellow: Dr Jingyuan Sun – Zhejiang University, China
Amount: £68,000
Researcher Links – Workshop (2019)
Promoting Social Embeddedness of New Biotechnologies: Co-Developing Public Engagement in and with China
Investigator: Dr Jay Zhang (SPSSR)
Partner: Chinese Academy of Sciences
Amount: £24,000
Newton International Fellowship (2019)
On use of machine learning for future mobile Networks
Host: Professor Jiangzhou Wang (EDA)
Fellow: Dr Yijin Pan – Southeast University, China
Amount: £99,000
Newton Mobility Grants (2018)
Data Compressed Ultrafast Single-Pixel Optical Imaging Using Variable Dielectric Liquid Lens
Investigator: Dr Chaoyi Wang (EDA)
Partner: Tianjin University, China
Amount: £9,400

Egypt
AHRC Newton Preserving Egypt’s Cultural Heritage (2015)
Egypt’s Living Heritage: Community Engagement in Re-Creating the Past.
Investigator: Professor Caroline Rooney – School of English
Amount: £31,273

South Africa
British Academy Newton Advanced Fellowships (2017)
South Africa and Labour Migration and Labour Relations in South and Southern Africa, c.1900-2000
Host: Dr Andrew Cohen – School of History
Fellow: Dr Rory Pilossof – Centre for Africa Studies, University of the Free State
Amount: £94,000

Newton Advanced Fellowship (2018)
Epistemic Injustice, Reasons and Agency
Host: Dr Lubomira Radolksa (SECL)
Fellow: Professor Veli Mitovna, University of Johannesburg, South Africa
Amount: £50,982
Newton Advanced Fellowship (2018)
Properties of semi-classical orthogonal polynomials
Host: Professor Peter Clarkson (MSAS)
Fellow: Professor Kerstin Jordaan – University of South Africa
Amount: £77,800
Newton International Fellowships (2017)
South Africa and inferring protein function using novel features and advanced machine learning.
Host: Dr Mark Wass – School of Biosciences
Fellow: Dr Mohd Shahbaaz – Department of Chemistry, Durban University of Technology
Amount: £96,000
GCRF Networking Grants (2017)
Home/City/World: Housing, Inclusion and Sustainability in the 21st Century
Investigator: Professor Helen Carr – Kent Law School (KLS)
Partner: Professor Danie Brand – University of Pretoria, South Africa
Amount: £24,938

Ukraine
Feasibility Study: Effectiveness of Public Health System (Programmes/Policies) in Combating Severe Population Health Crisis in Ukraine
Investigators: Professor Stephen Peckham and Dr Olena Nizalova – Centre for Health Services Studies (CHSS)
Partner: Dr Ganna Vakhitova – Kyiv Economics Institute, Ukraine
Amount: £100,590

Turkey
Newton Advanced Fellowships (2016)
Reuniting Cyprus: The British-Cypriot Diasporas as Peace Agents
Host: Dr Neophyto Loizides – School of Politics and International Relations (PolIR)
Fellow: Dr Kuscu Bonnenfant – Middle East Technical University, Turkey
Amount: £97,698
Newton Advanced Fellowships (2014)
Perception of and Attitude towards the Syrian Refugees in Turkey

Host: Professor Dominic Abrams – School of Psychology
Fellow: Dr Banu Kavaklı Birdal, Istanbul Kemerburgaz University, Turkey
Amount: £36,980

Newton International Fellowships (2017)
Turkey and Offering and Demanding Collective Apologies: A UK versus Turkey Comparison

Host: Professor Ayge K Üskül – School of Psychology
Fellow: Dr Veyssel Elgin, Abant Izzet Baysal University
Amount: £56,000

Newton Advanced Fellowships (2017)
Overcoming Barriers and Developing Best Practice for Supporting Entrepreneurship and Trade in Universities and Innovation Intermediaries: Lessons for Turkey and the UK

Host: Professor Jeremy Howells – Kent Business School (KBS)
Fellow: Dr Serdal Temel, Ege University, Turkey
Amount: £73,000

Vietnam
Newton Mobility Grants (2016)
The Global Financial Crisis and Spillovers of US Monetary Policy: Lessons from Vietnam

Investigator: Dr Roman Matousek – Kent Business School (KBS)
Partner: Dr Chau Le – Banking University HCMC, Vietnam
Amount: £7,860

Mexico
Newton Mobility Grants (2017)
Global Security Assemblages and International Law: A Socio-Legal Study of Emergency in Motion

Investigator: Dr Gavin Sullivan – Kent Business School (KBS)
Partner: Dr Alejandro Rodiles Bretónr – ITAM University Mexico
Amount: £9,296

Brazil
Newton Research Mobility CONFAP-UK (2014)
Analysing the Brazilian media coverage of London 2012 Paralympic Games, Production and dissemination of a media guide on how to report on disability and sport designed for Brazilian news makers

Investigator: Dr Sakis Papppous – Centre for Sports and Exercise Sciences
Partner: Dr Doralice Lange de Souza – Universidade Federal do Paraná, Brazil

Newton Research Collaboration (2015)
Security Policy Enforcement in Federated Open Source Clouds

Investigator: Professor David Chadwick – School of Computing
Partner: Dr Carlos Ferraz – Universidade Federal de Pernambuco, Brazil
Amount: £12,000

Newton Research Collaboration (2015)
RFID moisture sensor network for landslide monitoring

Investigators: Professor Nathan Gomes, Professor John Batchelor, and Dr Christos Efstratiou – School of Engineering and Digital Arts (EDA)
Partners: Dr Luis Carlos Vieira – Universidade Tecnológica Federal do Paraná (UTFPR), Brazil
Amount: £18,000

Newton Advanced Fellowships (2017)
The Logic and Perception of Persuasion in Stoicism

Host: Dr Kelli Rudolph (SEC L)
Fellow: Dr Aldo Dinucci, Federal University of Sergipe, Brazil
Amount: £74,000

Newton Advanced Fellowships (2018)
How to strengthen leadership and the workforce through the re-design and implementation of a pay performance programme in PHC Brazil

Host: Professor Stephen Peckham – Centre for Health Services Studies (CHSS)
Fellow: Dr Fabianda da Cunha Saddi – Federal University of Goias, Brazil
Amount: £74,000

India
Newton-Bhabha PhD Placement (2015)
Study of structural and relaxation dynamics of some ion conducting materials

Supervisor: Dr Gavin Mountjoy – School of Physical Sciences (SPS)
Student: Mr Tanmoy Paul – India
Amount: £5,900

BBSRC: Global Challenges Research Fund (2019)
Enhancing cobalamín (vitamin B12) bioavailability in culturally appropriate foods in India

Investigator: Professor Martin Warren (Biosciences)
Partner: Durham University, University of Cambridge, ICT in Mumbai, KEM hospital in Pune
Amount: £971,789

Indonesia
NERC–Newton Wallacea programme (2018)
Biodiversity, environmental change and land-use policy in Sulawesi and Maluku

Investigator: Dr Matt Struebig (SAC)
Partner: Adi Widyanto, Agus Budi Utom – Burung Indonesia
Amount: £394,899

Thailand
Newton Advanced Fellowship (2018)
Establishment of RNAi-based algal technology for sustainable disease control in shrimp cultivation

Host: Professor Colin Robinson (Biosciences)
Fellow: Vanvimon Saksamerprome, BIOTECH-Thailand
Amount: £74,000
AGENDA – DAY ONE

23 May 2019

9.00  Welcome and Opening Remarks
Professor Karen Cox, Vice Chancellor, University of Kent
Professor Nguyen Van Noi, Rector, NVU-HUS

9.10  Aims and Objectives of the Event
Dr Sarah Tetley, Research Development Officer, University of Kent

9.20  Lessons Learnt from our Existing Projects
Professor Maria Paola Scaparra & colleagues
Dr Vanvimon Saksmerprome, BIOTEC, Thailand, Newton Advanced Fellowship holder

10.30 Refreshments and Networking

11.00 What international funding schemes can SEA researchers apply to?
Phan Huong, Research and Innovation Programme Manager, UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Hanoi

11.30 What are Funders Looking for?
Professor Caroline Knowles, Programme Director of the British Academy Cities and Infrastructure Programme

12.00 Lunch

13.30 How to successfully apply for UK Research Funding: Tricks and Tips
Dr Jane Benstead, Deputy Research Grants and Contracts Manager, University of Kent
Dr Helen Leech, Research Development Officer, University of Kent

14.30 World Café: Developing Research Management Capacity in SEA

16.00 Event wrap up and instructions for Day 2

16.10 Close

18.00-19.30 Drinks reception and buffet
AGENDA – DAY TWO

Friday 24 May 2019
9.00-12.00

Participants can choose to take part in one of the following 3 workshops:
• WS1: Operational research and analytics to solve real world problems: building capacity and new collaborations in transport, logistics, healthcare, disaster management and the design of smart cities. Workshop lead Professor Maria Paola Scaparra
• WS2: New approaches and new collaborations in vaccine development in South East Asia. Workshop lead Professor Colin Robinson
• WS3: Growing Research Administration and Management Capacity in South East Asia. Workshop Lead Dr Sarah Tetley

WS1
Operational research (OR) and analytics to solve real world problems: building capacity and new collaborations in transport, logistics, healthcare, disaster management and the design of smart cities.

Workshop lead Professor Maria Paola Scaparra

9.00-9.05 Welcome and Introduction, Professor Maria Paola Scaparra

9.05-9.30 Smart decision making through Operational Research (OR) and Analytics, Professor Maria Paola Scaparra

9.30-9.45 Sustaining Urban Habitats: An Interdisciplinary Approach, Dr Trung Hieu Tran

9.45-10.00 Sustainability and Operational Research in Thailand, Dr Stefano Starita

10.00-10.15 Bayesian Network to Analyse the Flash Flood Susceptibility in Lai Chau Province, Dr Trinh Quoc Anh

10.15-10.30 Coffee break

10.30-11.45 World Café: OR for Sustainable Development in SEA

11.45-12.00 Conclusive remarks

WS2
New approaches and new collaborations in vaccine development in South East Asia.

Workshop lead: Professor Colin Robinson

9.00-9.10 Introduction
Professor Colin Robinson, University of Kent, UK

9.10-9.30 Animal vaccine research and development in Thailand
Dr Peera Jaru-Amponpan, National Center for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology, Thailand

9.30-9.50 Vaccine requirements in South East Asia
Dr Ian Dacre, FAO-RAP

9.50-10.10 Baculovirus Expression System and its application in vaccine production in Vietnam
Dr Ly Duc Viet, National Institute of Veterinary Research, Vietnam

10.10-10.30 Animal vaccine and adjuvant development in GIAVT
Dr Hsing-Chieh Wu, National Pingtung University of Science and Technology, Taiwan

10.30-11.00 Coffee

11.00-11.20 The selection of appropriate culture conditions for growth of recombinant green microalga Chlamydomonas reinhardtii in laboratory conditions
Professor Dr Dang Diem Hong, Vietnam Academy of Science and Technology

11.20-11.40 Establishment of RNAi-based algal technology for sustainable disease control in shrimp cultivation
Dr Patai Charoonart, National Center for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology, Thailand

11.40-12.00 Vaccine alternatives to antibiotics in aquaculture
Dr Kim Thompson, Moredun Research Institute

WS3
Growing Research Administration and Management Capacity in South East Asia

Workshop lead: Dr Sarah Tetley

9.00-9.30 Introduction & Feedback from the World Café : Developing Research Management Capacity in South East Asia : Barriers and Opportunities
Dr Sarah Tetley, University of Kent, UK

9.30-10.30 Research Management in Africa and India
Dr Savita Ayyar, Research Management Consultant
Allen Muyaama Mukhwana, Research Systems Manager, African Academy of Sciences

10.30-10.45 Coffee

10.45-12.00 Group Discussion: How Can we Grow Capacity in South East Asia

12.00 Close
BIOGRAPHIES

Day 1 – 23 May – speakers and University of Kent organisers

Professor Maria Paola Scaparra
Principal Investigator, University of Kent

Professor Scaparra is a Professor in Management Science at Kent Business School (KBS), University of Kent. She is currently the head of the Management Science group at KBS and an active member of the Centre for Logistics and Heuristic Optimisation.

Her research interests include the application of optimization techniques to critical infrastructure protection planning, disaster management and humanitarian logistics among others. She has published many papers and book chapters on these topics in top-ranked operational research and geography journals, and has been involved in several international, multi-disciplinary and consultancy projects, including EPSRC, DSTL, KTP and European projects.

Professor Scaparra’s research presently focuses on the integration of Operational Research, also known as the Science of Better, with other disciplines (eg, social science, climatology, civil engineering and economics) to address the UN Sustainable Development Goals and help solve intractable challenges in developing countries.

Professor Colin Robinson
Head of School, School of Biosciences, University of Kent

Colin Robinson is Professor of Biotechnology at the University of Kent. Much of the research in the Robinson lab is focused on the mechanisms by which proteins are transported into and across biological membranes, with a particular focus on the bacterial protein export system, Tat. Current research in the lab involves the exploitation of bacterial protein export systems for the production of high value recombinant proteins, as well as investigation of the unique proofreading mechanism of the bacterial and plant Tat systems. Professor Robinson was Director of two RCUK Doctoral Training Centres during his time at the University of Warwick, has participated in four EU projects including Coordination of one, and is PI on research grants totalling £7.8M including a 4-centre BBSRC/InnovateUK IB Catalyst award and the newly awarded GCRF grant.

Dr Sarah Tetley
Research Development Officer (Social Sciences)

I returned to full time education after a successful 16-year career in the UK public sector, during which time I worked in a number of different healthcare organisations. I have a Masters in Conservation Biology and a PhD in Management from Kent Business School. I joined the Research Services team at the University of Kent in 2015 after submitting my thesis, initially supporting Kent’s engagement with the Eastern ARC research consortium and, more recently as the Research Development Officer for the Social Sciences.

Despite a varied career to date, a common feature of all of my previous work has been the need to bring about positive change across complex systems – a challenge that, while at times frustrating, I thoroughly enjoy!

Dr Helen Leech
Research Development Officer (Sciences)

I have worked in research since 1995 in three different universitites, gaining a broad understanding of the research process through this.

I graduated from Liverpool and went on to a technician post at Sheffield, before working as a research assistant at Queen Mary, University of London then undertaking a PhD. After gaining my doctorate I worked as a post-doctoral researcher on three different projects, first at QMUL, and then at Kent in Biosciences and Pharmacy.

I left the bench and joined Research Services in 2012. I am still passionate about the need to develop the skills and training of researchers, and will always be a strong advocate for them, and for research more broadly.

Dr Jane Benstead
Deputy Grants and Contracts Manager, Research Services, University of Kent

My background: I have a PhD in paediatric oncology from St James’ University Hospital and the University of Leeds and carried out post-doctoral research in adult leukaemia and muscular dystrophy at Royal Holloway (University of London) funded by a UK charity and then a European Framework programme. My current role: I moved to Research Services at the University of Kent in 2009 and have worked in the grants and contracts team ever since. Our team have both pre- and post-award responsibilities, supporting academics in the practical aspects of grant submission – calculating costs, deciphering scheme rules and assisting with the application process and funder systems. Once a grant is awarded we liaise with the funder to accept the award, draft and negotiate collaboration agreements with our partners and provide support and advice throughout the project lifetime. I am also the main contact in the team for European funding including the complex Interreg programme.

Dr Siao-Leu Phouratsamay
Research Associate, University of Kent

Dr Siao-Leu Phouratsamay is the Research Associate within the GCRF OSIRIS project, based at the University of Kent. She holds a PhD in Operations Research from Sorbonne University and a Master’s degree in Applied Mathematics and Computer Science from ENSIMAG. Her research interests include supply chain management, production planning and lot-sizing, logistics, combinatorial optimization, mathematical programming, algorithms and mechanism design. Currently, she has focused her work in the area of green supply chain and sustainability. She has published in international journals such as Discrete Optimization, and has given several talks in international forums (International Symposium on Combinatorial Optimization, and International Workshop on Lot-Sizing).

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Dr Alison Walters
Project Manager (SEARC), University of Kent

Dr Alison Walters completed her doctorate at the University of York, studying DNA replication in the methanogenic archaeon Methanococcus maripaludis. She then spent 6 years as a Visiting Postdoctoral Fellow at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Maryland, where she studied the regulation of nuclear morphology in Saccharomyces cerevisiae in the Cohen-Fix lab. She subsequently moved back to the UK and took up the position of Project Manager for a BBSRC-funded IB Catalyst grant in Prof Robinson’s lab at the University of Kent, before moving to her current position as Project Manager for the GCRF project.

Dr Vanvimon Saksmerprome
Principal Investigator at National Center for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (BIOTEC) Thailand

Dr Vanvimon Saksmerprome is a Principal Investigator at National Center for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (BIOTEC) Thailand. She has run the RNA interference platform group for shrimp disease control at the collaborative research unit (CENTEX Shrimp) between BIOTEC and Mahidol University. She and her group has engineered organisms that are considered as “Generally Regarding As Safe” by the US Food and Drug Administration such as microalgae and probiotics for double-stranded RNA production. She received both national and international grants for early-career scientists since 2008, and was recently awarded a Newton Advanced Fellowship to develop the antiviral technology for shrimp aquaculture.

Phan Lien Huong
Research and Innovation Programme Manager, British Embassy Hanoi

Phan.Huong@fco.gov.uk

Huong is Research and Innovation Programme Manager at the British Embassy Hanoi, looking after the Newton Fund Vietnam. Her role is to facilitate the establishment and delivery of the bilateral research and innovation partnership between the UK and Vietnam.

Huong joined the British Embassy in June 2014 after working in a number of international development organisations. She holds a BSc of Biology from Hanoi University of Science and

Professor Caroline Knowles, Programme Director of the British Academy Cities and Infrastructure Programme

**BIOGRAPHIES CONT**

**Day 2 – 24 May – WS1**

Dr Trung Hieu Tran, Leverhulme Research Fellow (Laboratory for Urban Complexity and Sustainability, University of Nottingham, the United Kingdom)

Dr Trung Hieu Tran is a Leverhulme Research Fellow in Urban Modelling and Optimisation in the project titled “Sustaining Urban Habitats: An Interdisciplinary Approach” at Laboratory for Urban Complexity and Sustainability, University of Nottingham, the United Kingdom. He obtained a PhD degree in Operations Research and his research interests focus on the theory and application of optimisation methods (both mathematical programming and metaheuristics) and agent-based modelling and simulation to production planning and scheduling problems, location analysis, logistics and supply chain management, gas transmission network and sustainable urban planning (especially in urban sustainability under impact of climate change). He is the leading author of several journal articles in the European Journal of Operational Research, Transportation Science, Journal of Scheduling, Applied Mathematical Modelling, etc. He has recently been on the editorial board of Inquest Journal of E-waste.

Dr Stefano Starita, School of Manufacturing System and Mechanical Engineering, Sirindhorn Institute of Technology, Thammasat University

Stefano has been a Lecturer at the Sirindhorn Institute of Technology since January 2018. There he is involved with the Industrial Engineering curriculum for undergraduate students and the Logistics and Supply Chain Systems Engineering curriculum for graduate students. Prior to this position, he was a research fellow at Warwick Business School working on a European Union funded project on Air Traffic Management. The project recently received an innovation award at the World ATM Congress.

He obtained his PhD in Management Science from Kent Business School in April 2016. His thesis was selected as runner-up for the prestigious OR Society Doctoral Award.

His research interests include the application of Operations Research to Disruption Management, Air Traffic Management, Sustainable Supply Chain and Heuristic Optimisation. He is actively publishing academic papers on international journals. He is currently supervising a number of students working on solutions for sustainable urban logistics.

Dr Trinh Quoc Anh PhD, Lecturer, Vietnam National University of Science

Trinh Quoc Anh is Lecturer at the Department of Probability and Statistics, Faculty of Mathematics, Mechanics, and Informatics, VNU Hanoi University of Science, where he has been since 2012. At present he serves as Department Vice Chair and Head of Statistical Consulting Service. He received a BSc in Applied Mathematics from Hanoi University of Science and Technology in 1997, and an MSc in Computer Science from the International Francophone Institute and MINES ParisTech in 2001. He received his PhD in Biostatistics from the University of Renée Descartes and Telecom ParisTech in 2007. From 2007 to 2011 he worked at Biostatistics and Epidemiology Department, Institute Gustave Roussy in Paris, eventually as European TENALEA Project manager.

Dr Dr Ly Duc Viet graduated from Vietnam National University of Agriculture in 2013 and obtained a master’s degree in 2016, majoring in veterinary medicine. He has been working at Department of Biochemistry-Immunology, National Institute Veterinary Medicine. His current research interests include basic research focusing on intertypic interference and host restriction of avian influenza viruses as well as applied research focusing on vaccine and antiviral therapeutics development for important swine viruses.
Research for 5 years, where his research is focussed on viruses, bacteria, vaccine production technology, and animal diseases. He experienced 1 year of training in Korea, studying the substances that affect the endocrine system. He has co-authored several articles on the baculovirus expression system for gene recombination in the Vietnamese government program, published in scientific journals.

Dr Hsing-Chieh Wu
1 Graduate Institute of Animal Vaccine Technology, National Pingtung University of Science and Technology
2 International Program in Animal Vaccine Technology, National Pingtung University of Science and Technology
3 Animal Biologics Pilot Production Center, National Pingtung University of Science and Technology

Hsing-Chieh completed her PhD in Veterinary Medicine from the National Chung Hsing University, Taiwan in 2016. She then spent one year in the Biomedical Sciences Research Complex of St Andrews University in UK as a visiting researcher. She works in the Graduate Institute of Animal Vaccine Technology in Taiwan as a postdoctoral research fellow, and she aims to develop infectious viral vaccines for ruminant animals. She has 10 years research experience in veterinary science and animal vaccine, and she holds two patents for veterinary vaccines.

Professor Dang Diem Hong, Institute of Biotechnology, Vietnam Academy of Science and Technology
Assoc. Professor Dr Dang Diem Hong is Former Head of Algal Biotechnology Department, Institute of Biotechnology belonging to Vietnam Academy of Science and Technology, Vietnam. She is the foremost algal researcher in Viet Nam and has a truly international research outlook having worked in research labs all over the world including in Moscow, Korea, Japan, Malaysia, Philippines, Canada and the USA. Her research interests lay examining – Algal species: commercial potential, physiology and molecular biology; emerging technologies and bioreactors to scale up algal production and harvesting; exploitation of values and value-added algal biomass for human food and animal feed – Algal natural products, functional food and pharmacology; new prospects in microalgae for food and feed; control of harmful and toxic microalgae to maintain food security; use of algal for environmental protection and microalgal for better environment; resources recycling and climate change mitigation; algae and biofuels and bio-oil; algaeomics (using genomics, proteomics, metagenomics, transcriptomics). She is currently involved in assessing oral vaccines for aquaculture animals using green microalgae of Chlamydomonas reinhardtii. She currently supervises 9 PhD students (4 successful defend) and 26 Master students (25 successful defend) and has published over 160 articles, conference papers, and books in both international and domestic journals. Since 2006 she is a staff member of the Asian Network for Using Algae as a CO2sink and the Asian Pacific Phycological Association. She is a representative for Vietnam at APSAP (The Asia – Pacific Society for Applied Phycology) and APFF (The Asian Pacific Phycological Forum) term from 2017 to 2019.

Dr Patai Charoonnart, National Center for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology, Thailand
Dr Patai Charoonnart got her PhD in Botany from the program of Biological Science, Chulalongkorn University in 2016. After that, she started work as postdoctoral researcher in the Shrimp Molecular Biology and Biotechnology laboratory, National Center for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology, Thailand. Her work is focussed on production and delivery of dsRNA for controlling shrimp viral diseases. In particular, she is exploring the application of microalgae chloroplast engineering for use as a tool to improve and support aquaculture quality, mainly to remedy loss by viral diseases.

Dr Kim Thompson, Moredun Research Institute, Scotland
Dr Kim Thompson is a Principal Investigator at Moredun Research Institute, where she heads the Aquaculture Research Group. She graduated from University of Stirling with a BSc (hons) in Biochemistry, and with an MSc in Immunology from University of Aberdeen and a PhD in Fish Immunology from University of Stirling. Before coming to Moredun Research Institute she was a Reader in Fish Immunology at the Institute of Aquaculture, University of Stirling, where she was based for more than 20 years.

Her research interests include vaccine development for fish pathogens (viral, bacterial and parasitic), examining the immune response of fish to these pathogens and understanding the factors that influence this response. She is also interested in developing alternative therapies for disease control in fish (e.g. functional feeds, immunostimulants, probiotics). She has published over 130 articles in international peer-reviewed publications relating to this work. She is a member of the European Association of Fish Pathologists, Asian Aquaculture Society, and a founding member of the International Society of Fish Immunology. She is also a Member of BBSRC UK Veterinary Vaccinology Research Network and International Veterinary Vaccinology Research Network.

Day 2 – 24 May – WS3
Dr Savita Ayyar
Savita Ayyar has over ten years of experience in diverse areas of research management and consultancy. She is currently working on behalf of the Wellcome Trust/DBT India Alliance to develop IRMI, the India Research Management Initiative. She began working in research management at the Wellcome Trust in London, UK (2007–2010). She was formerly the Head of Research Development (2010–2017) at the National Centre for Biological Sciences, Bangalore, where she worked to initiate, implement and nurture the activities of the Research Development Office (RDO). Under her stewardship, operations at the NCBS RDO spanned grant management, philanthropic fundraising and endowments, intramural funding and News and Communications. Savita received her initial training in Biochemistry at the University of Delhi and Biotechnology at AIIMS, New Delhi. She completed her doctoral and post-doctoral work in Developmental Biology and Neurobiology, respectively at the University of Cambridge, UK.

Allen Muyaama Mukhwana
Allen joined AAS in November 2017. She is working with a broad range of partners including researchers, funders, research management professionals and institutions to develop a programme for professionalising research and innovation management in Africa and provide leadership for the transformation of research systems and management. Prior to joining the AAS Allen was Centre Manager for the Makerere University/UVRI Infection and Immunity Research Training Centre (MUII-PLUS). She joined MUII-PLUS from the Infectious Diseases Institute, College of Health Sciences, Makerere University where she was the Senior Research Administrator and Head of Capacity Building for more than six years. During this period, she established the research support functions and structures and articulated the governance framework. She is passionate about management of the research ecosystems in Africa, from governance and compliance, portfolio tracking, through to dissemination, reporting, and uptake.
WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW: APPLYING FOR GCRF FUNDING

GCRF is not straightforward, and you need to be aware of what’s involved before applying. Andrew Massoura, Research Grants and Contracts Manager at Kent, talks to Phil Ward about what to look out for before preparing a bid.

**ODA compliance**

This is the key to the whole fund. Without being compliant with official development assistance (ODA) rules, your project will not even be considered.

ODA needs to run through your project like the words run through a stick of Brighton rock. Wherever a reviewer chooses to bite, it should be clear immediately how your project is compliant.

ODA compliance means that the funding has to be used to support the growth and welfare of some of the least developed countries in the world. The research doesn’t necessarily have to take place in these countries, but it has to be for their long-term and sustainable benefit.

Therefore any GCRF application must make clear how the proposed project will ensure this. You must be specific, and think about the following.

Which countries are involved and are they on the DAC list?

- What is the challenge for the local populations?
- How will your research address this challenge, and what impact will it have on the economic development and welfare of the local populations?
- What is your route to impact, and how will solutions be realised?

Just saying that you’re ODA compliant is not enough, either: you must have supporting evidence that demonstrates that you are.

In addition, all work funded by the GCRF is expected to address the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). You should be aware of the SDGs that are relevant to your project, but don’t make tenuous claims to involve more than are relevant. Also, be specific about how you will meet the time-limited target of each of the relevant SDGs.

**GCRF assessment criteria**

While ODA compliance is the linchpin for a GCRF proposal, there are four further GCRF criteria for assessing an application.

- **Research excellence**: excellence is essential, but does not have to be constrained by traditional methodologies. You should demonstrate that you are bringing together the necessary mix of skills, knowledge and expertise to solve the problem. Where possible, you should also include partners from low and middle-income countries, and ideally partners who may not traditionally work with each other.

- **Problem and solution focused**: Contextualise the problem, specifically for the countries you are working with, and demonstrate how you have worked with partners on the ground to understand the detail and the scale of it. For the solution, you must make it clear and not imposed by you. Once again, local engagement is paramount. If there is preliminary data to show viability, use it. If you’re targeting a relatively wealthy country on the DAC list, you should make clear how your work will benefit a vulnerable section of the population.

- **Partnership and capacity building**: There should be a collaborative feel throughout your proposal, and you should avoid any top-down language or worse, imperialistic overtones. Be specific about the role and contribution of partners and explain how the partnership was formed and how it will continue. In building capacity, show how both research and administration will be shared and highlight plans to develop technical and skills (including soft skills), encompassing possible training of colleagues from other countries in UK facilities.

- **Likelihood of impact**: Think about who needs to know about your findings, and how you will make them accessible. Once again, partnerships are important in facilitating this. Going forward, how will the project be sustainable beyond the lifetime of the grant, and how will you continue to monitor and evaluate the work towards its effective impact? Finally be aware that impact can take many forms, including developmental, policy, capacity-building, and practice level.

**Due diligence**

You should broadly be aware that you need to be assured on three areas of oversight.

- **Governance and control**: What systems are in place to control and deal with risks such as bribery, corruption and fraud? Are there appropriate ethical oversight and assurance procedures?

- **Ability to deliver**: Have projects of a similar size and nature been successfully completed before? Is there a robust framework of management, training, monitoring, openness and data management?

- **Financial stability**: Is there a team to manage the finances and are the systems in place to monitor and audit the award? Does it offer value for money? Operationally, is there the necessary banking infrastructure to handle the budget?

**Costing proposals**

Although the UK research-costing process and parameters are familiar to UK researchers, those of their partners may not be. It’s important, then, to understand how your partners’ costs have been calculated and how they can be evidenced.

When it comes to reimbursing them, it can vary. UK partners’ costs are usually paid at 80 per cent of full economic costs. Overseas partners costs are typically 100 per cent, and sometimes an additional overhead of 20-30 per cent can be included.

Always check what costs can be included, as some schemes allow students and equipment whereas others don’t. You should always include administration costs and allow for a lot of travel. The projects funded by the GCRF are usually complex and always global.

**Starting procedures**

Of course, submitting an application is only the beginning. Be prepared for when you receive notification of the award. There is sometimes less flexibility than you may be used to, and start dates tend to be fixed. Therefore there may be a short turnaround for the recruitment of staff and to complete due diligence processes. In addition a collaboration agreement is usually required right from the start.

**Project management**

As with the rest of the GCRF programme, project management tends to be more complex than for standard grants. Be prepared for stage gate reviews and additional project requirements. You should have in place a risk register, a financial management plan, a work plan for each work stream, a plan for governance and project management, and a monitoring and evaluation plan.

GCRF was never going to be simple. With unusual structures and very specific expectations, there’s the potential for a huge administrative headache. It needn’t be so. If you go into it with your eyes open and prepared for the demands of a development project, it shouldn’t be too onerous. The fund only began to operate in 2015, so it’s still relatively young. Give it another five years and we’ll all wonder what the problem was.

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The Sustainable Development Goals are a call for action by all countries – poor, rich and middle-income – to promote prosperity while protecting the planet. They recognize that ending poverty must go hand-in-hand with strategies that build economic growth and address a range of social needs including education, health, social protection, and job opportunities, while tackling climate change and environmental protection.

About the Sustainable Development Goals

The Sustainable Development Goals are the blueprint to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all. They address the global challenges we face, including those related to poverty, inequality, climate, environmental degradation, prosperity, and peace and justice. The Goals interconnect and in order to leave no one behind, it is important that we achieve each Goal and target by 2030.