GLOBAL CHALLENGES RESEARCH CONFERENCE 2019

Building Resilience
Welcome to the Global Challenges Research Fund Conference at the University of Kent. This delegate pack contains useful information about the conference, the campus, the city of Canterbury and the University’s GCRF activities and research.

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Sustainable Development Goals 31
I am delighted to welcome you to the University of Kent, and to this major conference focussing on global challenges.

The University was founded in 1965 as an institution that aimed to do things differently by nurturing interdisciplinary research, thinking creatively about solutions to intractable problems, and thereby make a significant positive difference to the world around us.

These ideals are shared with the Global Challenges Research Fund, a fantastic government initiative to support cutting edge research addressing the challenges faced by countries that are recipients of overseas development assistance.

Because Kent’s principles are aligned with those of the GCRF, the University has had considerable success with the Fund, and later in this programme we look at some of the incredible projects that have resulted from this.

Our success led to additional funding from Research England, part of UK Research and Innovation, and we have used this to support the twelve workshops that you will hear about during the course of the conference.

The focus of these workshops is ‘resilience’. In a fast-changing world it’s important to understand and develop resilience in its many forms, from resilient governance to resilient and sustainable tourism, from the fight against TB to providing education in war zones.

These workshops show exactly what GCRF is about: collaboration, development, and capacity building. They provide the sparks that will kindle further partnerships, and I very much look forward to hearing how these continue and blossom in the future, and the exciting research that will result.

So enjoy your time in Canterbury and do take this wonderful opportunity to hear about the results of the workshops, to talk to others, and to develop those links. It is through these links, these collaborations and two-way conversations, that we will start to meet those global challenges, and develop a resilient future.

Professor Karen Cox
Vice-Chancellor and President
USEFUL INFORMATION

Conference location
The University of Kent
Canterbury
Kent
CT2 7NZ

Key conference locations
(see map on pages 6-7):
• Darwin Conference Suite (conference dinners, morning sessions on 1 July)
• Templeman Library (afternoon sessions on 1 July, all sessions on 2 July)
• Keynes College (accommodation)

Key contacts
Please contact Grace Grussenmeyer (GCRF Officer) with general conference queries or concerns:
T: 01227 816419 (Monday-Friday 9.00-17.00)
M: 07553 567 764 (WhatsApp)
E: globalchallenges@kent.ac.uk

Conference Office:
T: 01227 828000
E: conferences@kent.ac.uk

Campus Security:
Emergencies: (01227 82)3333
Email: security@kent.ac.uk

Conference registration desk
The conference will kick off in Darwin College, and the registration desk will be situated at the entrance to the Darwin Conference Suite. All delegates are asked to register for the conference and collect their delegate badge between 09:00-09:30 on Monday 1 July.

Name badges
Please collect your name badge at the registration desk in Darwin Conference Suite between 09:00-09:30 on Monday, 1 July. Name badges have been colour-coded to serve as a conversation starter. Please see the colour key below:
Green: Kent GCRF Workshop Lead
Yellow: International Workshop Collaborator
Red: Speaker
Blue: Kent delegate
Orange: External delegate
Purple: GCDC Training School participant

Breakout Sessions
Delegates are asked to sign up for breakout sessions when they register and collect their name badge between 09:00-09:30 on Monday, 1 July. As space in each session is limited, spaces will be allocated on a first-come first-served basis.

Twitter
For those delegates wishing to tweet during the conference we will be using the hashtag #GCRFKent2019 so please include it in your tweets. Follow us at @GCRF_Kent for live updates and useful conference information!

Get connected on campus
Visitor Wi-Fi
All delegates will be supplied with a Wi-Fi log-in in order to access the internet during their stay. Log-in information and instructions will be supplied during registration. Wireless zones are available in teaching areas, social areas and in the student accommodation on campus.

Please contact our Conference Office if you have not received your Wi-Fi log-in (T: +44 (0)1227 828000, E: conferences@kent.ac.uk).

WiFi Guest provided by The Cloud
This is free public Wi-Fi for visitors who don’t have a Kent IT Account, an eduroam account or govroam account.

How to get on WiFi Guest
1. Find WiFi Guest in your list of available Wi-Fi networks and select it.
2. Log in, or register if you’re a first time user, to gain internet access.
Travel
Bus
Taking the bus is the easiest way to get from the campus down to the city centre. The **Uni1** (city centre) and **Uni2** (also goes to the city centre, but via a longer route) travel every 30 minutes (approximately) and also some services stop by Canterbury East and West train stations. More information is available here: www.kent.ac.uk/transport/bus/canterbury

Key bus stops:
- **Keynes** – on University Road past Keynes College road
- **Science building** – on Giles Lane in between Marlowe and Stacey buildings
- **Gulbenkian Theatre** – on Giles Lane behind the Gulbenkian
- **Darwin College** – on Darwin Road next to Cornwallis building
- **Park Wood** – the main Park Wood bus top outside Purchas Court

Taxis
- **Canterbury Taxis Ltd** – 01227 444444
  https://canterburytaxis.co.uk
- **Longleys** – 01227 710777
  www.longleysprivatehire.co.uk/
- **Wilkinson Taxis** – 01227 450450
  www.wilkinsontaxis.com
- **Cabline Taxis** – 01227 555555
  http://cabline6.co.uk/

Food and drink on campus

**Create Café**
Map ref J13
Marlowe building
29-30 June  Closed
1-5 July  09.00-15.00
6 July  08.30-15.00
7 July  Closed

**Dolce Vita**
Map ref N6
Keynes College
29-30 June  07.45-10.00 (breakfast)
1 July  07.45-10.00 (breakfast)
08.30-16.00 (drinks, sandwiches, snacks)
12.00-15.00 & 18.00-19.30 (hot food)
2-3 July  07.45-10.00 (breakfast)
08.30-16.00 (drinks, sandwiches, snacks)
12.00-15.00 (hot food)
4-5 July  07.45-10.00 (breakfast)
08.30-16.00 (drinks, sandwiches, snacks)
12.00-15.00 & 18.00-19.30 (hot food)
6 July  07.45-10.00 (breakfast)
08.30-16.00 (drinks, sandwiches, snacks)
18.00-19.30 (hot food)
7 July  07.45-10.00 (breakfast)
18.00-19.30 (hot food)

**Gulbenkian Café**
Map ref J10
Central campus
Mon-Fri  08.00-20.00
Sat  12.00-20.00
Sun  12.00-18.00

**K-Bar**
Map ref N6
Keynes College
Weekends  12.00-23.00
Weekdays  11.00-23.00

**ORIGINS**
Map ref E4
Darwin College
Weekends  Closed
Weekdays  11.00-17.00 (drinks, snacks)
12.00-16.30 (hot food)
FINDING YOUR WAY AROUND

Conference locations
1. Keynes College (N6)
2. Templeman Library (J11)
3. Darwin Conference Suite (E5)

Main Entrance/Reception

Main buildings
- C2 Sibson building
- D6 Woolf College
- E4 Darwin Houses
- E5 Darwin College
- H5 Sports Centre
- J6 Grimond Building (Aphra Foyer)
- J10 Gulbenkian Theatre
- J11 Templeman Library
- J13 Marlowe Building
- J15 Eliot College Extension
- J13 Jarman Building
- K4 Rutherford College
- K5 Tyler Court
- N1 Medical Centre
- N2 Pharmacy
- N6 Keynes College
- N7 Turing College
- P4 Becket Court
- P5 Eliot College

No vehicular access
Rough Common
Whitstable

PARK WOOD ROAD
PARK WOOD COURTS
TURING COLLEGE
Please use the Terrace Entrance.
THE UNIVERSITY, CANTERBURY, KENT AND PLACES OF INTEREST

About the University
The University of Kent is a leading UK university producing world-class research, rated internationally excellent and leading the way in many fields of study. Our 20,000 students are based at campuses and centres in Canterbury, Medway, Athens, Brussels, Paris, Rome and Tonbridge.

With 97% of our research judged to be of international quality in the most recent Research Assessment Framework (REF2014), our students study with some of the most influential thinkers in the world. Universities UK recently named research from the University as one of the UK’s 100 Best Breakthroughs of the last century for its significant impact on people’s everyday lives.

Known as the ‘UK’s European university’, our international outlook is a major focus and we believe in our students developing a global perspective. Many of our courses provide opportunities to study or work abroad; we have partnerships with more than 400 universities worldwide and are the only UK university to have postgraduate centres in Athens, Brussels, Paris and Rome.

The University is a truly international community with over 40% of our academics coming from outside the UK and our students representing over 150 nationalities.

We are proud to be part of Canterbury, Medway and the county of Kent and, through collaboration with partners, work to ensure our global ambitions have a positive impact on the region’s academic, cultural, social and economic landscape.

Canterbury and Kent
Canterbury is a lovely city with medieval buildings, atmospheric pubs as well as a wide range of shops. It has a warm and friendly atmosphere, and is within easy reach of London and mainland Europe.

The city’s medieval history is easy to see in its streets and buildings and in the world-famous cathedral, which is the venue for the University’s degree ceremonies. Canterbury Cathedral, St Augustine’s Abbey and St Martin’s church make up a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Education has been at the heart of Canterbury since 597 CE and there is now a population of almost 40,000 students in the city.

The county of Kent is known as The Garden of England, and is one of the most picturesque areas of the country. East Kent has 120 miles of coastline; the nearest coastal town being Whitstable, where you will find beaches, water sports, seafood and boutique shopping.

Local places of interest
Canterbury Cathedral, in 597 St Augustine arrived in Kent and soon established the first cathedral. Between 1070 and 1077 the cathedral was rebuilt as a Norman church by Archbishop Lanfranc. Augustine’s original building lies beneath the floor of the nave. www.canterbury-cathedral.org

The Old Buttermarket, was known up until the mid-17th century as the Bull Stake, as bulls were tied overnight against a stake to be ‘baited’ by dogs, with the expectation that this would produce more tender meat. The slaughter area of the city, known as the shambles, was nearby in Butchery Lane.

Abbot’s Mill, for nearly 150 years the second largest Canterbury building was the Abbot’s Mill, standing where St Radigund’s street bridge now crosses a branch of the Great Stour. It burnt to the ground in a spectacular fire in 1933 however you can still see the remaining metal work from the 1792 mill.

Westgate Gardens, with their stunning riverside walk, are one of the city’s showpiece gardens. They are situated alongside the Westgate Towers, the largest surviving medieval city gate in England.

St Augustine’s Abbey, This great abbey, marking the rebirth of Christianity in southern England, was founded shortly after 597 CE by St Augustine. Originally created as a burial place for the Anglo-Saxon kings of Kent, this impressive abbey is an important part of the Canterbury World Heritage Site, along with the cathedral and St Martin’s Church. www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/places/st-augustines-abbey/

Canterbury Castle, The keep of Canterbury Castle, along with Westgate, is the most prominent remaining landmark of the city’s medieval defences and still dominates the junction of Wincheap, the ring road (Rheims Way) and Castle Street near Canterbury East Station. www.canterbury-archaeology.org.uk/castle/4590809482

The Canterbury Tales, Meet costumed guides, walk alongside Chaucer’s pilgrims and revel in the recreated medieval scenes as five colourful tales of love, infidelity, intrigue, courtship and death are brought vividly to life. You can experience the sights, sounds and smells of medieval England; a unique and theatrical introduction to Canterbury and its famous literary connection. www.canterburytales.org.uk/
## CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

### Sunday 30 June

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>From 14.00</td>
<td>Arrival/check-in to accommodation</td>
<td>Keynes College Reception</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19.00</td>
<td>Drinks reception and buffet</td>
<td>Darwin Conference Suite</td>
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</table>

### Monday 1 July

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>09.00</td>
<td>Registration (tea and coffee available)</td>
<td>Darwin Conference Suite</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09.30</td>
<td>Opening remarks</td>
<td>Darwin Conference Suite</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09.35</td>
<td>Welcome</td>
<td>Darwin Conference Suite</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>09.45</td>
<td>Plenary: GCRF – Resilience perspectives</td>
<td>Darwin Conference Suite</td>
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<td>Dr John Rees, GCRF Challenge Leader (Resilience); Director, Earth Hazards &amp; Observatories, British Geological Survey</td>
<td>Darwin Conference Suite</td>
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<tr>
<td>10.30</td>
<td>Tea and coffee break</td>
<td>Darwin Conference Suite</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.00</td>
<td>Provocation: Is a Resilient World Achievable?</td>
<td>Darwin Conference Suite</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.30</td>
<td>World Café</td>
<td>Darwin Conference Suite</td>
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<tr>
<td>13.00</td>
<td>Delegates make their way to the Templeman Library for lunch</td>
<td>Templeman Foyer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14.30</td>
<td>Panel Session: Forming Productive and Sustainable Partnerships</td>
<td>Templeman Lecture Theatre</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dr Katie McQuaid, Senior Research Fellow, University of Leeds (Chair)</td>
<td>Templeman Seminar Rooms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16.00</td>
<td>Tea and coffee break</td>
<td>Templeman Foyer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16.30</td>
<td>Breakout Sessions (I)</td>
<td>Templeman Seminar Rooms</td>
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<tr>
<td>17.30</td>
<td>End</td>
<td>Darwin Conference Suite</td>
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### Tuesday 2 July

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>09.00</td>
<td>Sign in (tea and coffee available)</td>
<td>Templeman Foyer</td>
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<tr>
<td>09.30</td>
<td>Breakout Sessions (II)</td>
<td>Templeman Seminar Rooms</td>
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<tr>
<td>10.30</td>
<td>Tea and coffee break</td>
<td>Templeman Foyer</td>
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<tr>
<td>11.00</td>
<td>Breakout Sessions (III)</td>
<td>Templeman Seminar Rooms</td>
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<tr>
<td>12.00</td>
<td>Lunch break</td>
<td>Templeman Foyer</td>
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In the afternoon the conference will divide into two parallel events: the conclusion of the GCRF ‘Building Resilience’ Conference, and the start of the five day Global Challenges Doctoral Centre Training School.

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<tr>
<td>13.30</td>
<td>Panel Session: A Resilient Future: key commonalities from the four themes</td>
<td>Templeman Lecture Theatre</td>
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<tr>
<td>15.00</td>
<td>Tea and coffee break</td>
<td>Templeman Foyer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15.30</td>
<td>Plenary: Building Resilience through collaboration with the Global South Ambassador Shahid A Kamal, Founder, COMSATS Centre for Climate and Sustainability (CCCS)</td>
<td>Templeman Lecture Theatre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16.30</td>
<td>Closing remarks</td>
<td>Templeman Lecture Theatre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17.00</td>
<td>Departure</td>
<td>Templeman Lecture Theatre</td>
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# BREAKOUT SESSION TIMETABLE

All breakout sessions will take place in the Templeman Library seminar rooms, and room numbers will be posted for delegates’ information in the Templeman foyer on the day.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday 1 July, 16.30</th>
<th>Theme</th>
<th>Preparing for a Changing Environment (PCE)</th>
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<th>Improving Health and Wellbeing (IHW)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Session</td>
<td>The gender continuum in water (in) security</td>
<td>Dr Trude Sundberg</td>
<td>ResCoast 19: Resilience and coastal tourism in South-East Asia</td>
<td>Dr Mark Hampton</td>
<td>Human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine acceptability in African contexts</td>
</tr>
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BREAKOUT SESSION ABSTRACTS

In the first half of 2019 Research England funded a series of workshops led by Kent academics and international collaborators in DAC-list countries.

These workshops explored issues of resilience within four diverse themes:
- Preparing for a Changing Environment
- Sustainable Tourism and Heritage
- Improving Health and Wellbeing
- Development through Higher Education

These breakout sessions are an opportunity to hear about the engagement in and outcome from these GCRF-funded workshops, and the next steps leading on from them.

Please visit https://research.kent.ac.uk/researchservices/gcrf2019-workshops to view biographies of the GCRF Kent workshop leaders and their international collaborators.

Sustainable Tourism and Heritage theme

ResCoasT 19: Resilience and coastal tourism in South-East Asia
Dr Mark Hampton
Reader in Tourism Management, School of Anthropology and Conservation and Kent Business School, University of Kent
Professor Amran Hamzah
Academic Practitioner, Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM)
Heruowo Mulijawan
Senior Researcher in Tourism Planning and Development, Stuppa Indonesia
Indah Kartika Sari
Doctoral Candidate, Gadjah Mada University

International tourism is typically concentrated at the coast and South-East Asia hosts multiple destinations including iconic resorts such as Bali, Penang, Phuket and Ha Long Bay. For DAC list countries with high birth rates and wide demographic pyramids resulting in youth un- and under-employment, tourism is a crucial sector for economic development, employment creation, livelihood opportunities and linkages through the supply chain (Hampton et al, 2018). Tourism can encompass two UN Sustainable Development Goals: SDG 1 – no poverty; and SDG 8 – decent work and economic growth.

However, coastal tourism-dependent communities in South-East Asia are highly vulnerable to both natural disasters (earthquakes, tsunami, tropical cyclones) but also to human-originated hazards and shocks (terrorism, political instability). This vulnerability constrains sustainable development from tourism, and impedes effective poverty alleviation.

The ResCoast 19 workshop at Gadjah Mada University, Yogyakarta, Indonesia created a community of practice of academics, NGOs, government and the tourism sector with attendees from Vietnam, Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia and the UK.

First, this breakout session will outline challenges facing coastal tourism and the research gaps identified at the ResCoast workshop. Second, we will discuss ways forward and future collaborative research on coastal tourism resilience leading to more effective evidence-based policy and realizable benefits for coastal communities.

La Cuba profunda: The compatibilities of local development and international heritage tourism in Granma province, Cuba
Dr Rebecca Ogden
Lecturer in Latin American Studies, School of European Culture and Languages, University of Kent
Dr Ibrahim Amhed Leon Tellez
Director of the Center for Management and Local Development Studies, University of Granma

With Cuba’s economy now dependent on tourism, development of the sector in the neglected Granma region would fortify regional economic resilience. Granma province hosts considerable historical and cultural heritage (42% of Cuba’s historic sites). Yet a lack of infrastructure, overly centralised decision-making, and its perceived irrelevance (by Havana policymakers) to the tourist market currently harm its potential for sensitive and sustainable tourist development to aid local development. In principle, reinvestment of hard currency in local cultural initiatives should aid local development; however, this model only works in regions that enjoy sustained access to tourism. Many also note that economic metrics for local development minimise crucial factors such as social/cultural well-being, social equality and socio-cultural heritage. The workshop will also address such factors and their implications.

Heritage management capacity building mapping and training
Dr Evangelos Kyriakidis
Senior Lecturer in Aegean Prehistory, School of European Culture and Languages, University of Kent
Dr Kenneth Aitchison
Head of Capability Mapping, Heritage Management Organization

Heritage is recognized as one of the most important yet most elusive of assets. In a global post-colonial agenda, aid programmes fail to meet the needs of countries, while our human capital and heritage becomes less diverse.
This session aims to start the conversation on how we can mitigate these challenges and what Kent and the Heritage Management Organization has done in the field.

The UN Development Programme considers the Capacity Development process to be a five-stage cycle, and Kent, together with the Heritage Management Organization, uses this as a roadmap to deliver Capacity Building in the heritage sector.

1 Engaging stakeholders. We talk to people on the ground, finding out what they think is needed and how we can partner with them to work effectively

2 Assessing capacity assets and needs. This is Capacity Mapping – we carry out informed surveys to find out how many people are working in heritage, in whatever roles, who they are working for and what their skills needs are

3 Planning a capacity development programme. We take the results of the capacity mapping exercise, combined with stakeholders’ views and use these to plan out what kind of training could be most effectively delivered

4 Implementing a capacity development response. This plan is used to then deliver Capacity Training, which we often aim to have do by having experts deliver face-to-face training, supported by online resources, and always incorporating a ‘train-the-trainers’ element that allows the outcomes of the training to be sustainably reproduced and multiplied

5 Evaluate Capacity Development. And we measure what we have done, in terms of what real changes have been achieved by the action. Following evaluation, we can be in a position to re-engage with stakeholders, and the cycle continues.

Improving Health and Wellbeing theme

Social science research in support of a concerted societal effort to fight TB epidemic in post-Soviet countries

Dr Olena Nizalova
Senior Research Fellow in Health Economics, School of Economics and Centre for Health Services Studies, University of Kent

Dr Mariya Bachmaha
Public Health Consultant, Ukraine Catholic University

Yuliya Chorna
Executive Director, TB Europe Coalition

Olga Nikolaieva
Research Associate, Kyiv School of Economics

Tuberculosis remains the world's leading cause of death from a single infectious agent. Although mostly affecting developing countries, it has become a global concern due to globalisation, increased population mobility and enormously high rates of latent infection. As the 2018 UN General Assembly high level meeting on ending TB confirmed, tackling TB epidemic requires concerted effort of both national stakeholders – politicians, civil society and researchers – and international players.

We delivered a GCRF workshop in Ukraine with the aim to facilitate social science and health research to support joint efforts of policy makers and civil society to fight TB Epidemic in Belarus, Ukraine, Georgia and Moldova.

At the conference session we will discuss the following three results:

- Research needs in the region to support development of effective policies and interventions in the area of TB control.
- Research agenda for social scientists to support national End TB strategies and the difficulties towards its implementation.
- Ideas on how to put together the efforts of social scientists, civil society activists and policy makers interested in ending TB epidemic.

Human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine acceptability in an African context

Dr Rebecca Cassidy
Research Associate, Centre for Health Services Studies, University of Kent

Dr Tim Fenton
Lecturer in Molecular Biosciences, School of Biosciences, University of Kent

Professor Michael Calnan
Professor of Medical Sociology, School of Social Policy, Sociology and Social Research, University of Kent

Dr Erica Gadsby
Senior Research Fellow, Centre for Health Services Studies, University of Kent

Professor Martin Michaelis
Professor of Molecular Medicine, School of Biosciences, University of Kent

Dr Mark Wass
Senior Lecturer in Computational Biology, School of Biosciences, University of Kent

Dr Josephat Nyagero
Senior Lecturer, Amref International University

Professor Marion Mutugi
Vice Chancellor, Amref International University

Maria Briglenti
UK Partnership Development Officer, Doctors with Africa CUAMM

Cervical cancer is a serious threat to women’s lives, causing one woman’s death every two minutes. Nearly 90% of these deaths are of women living in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs). Yet these deaths are largely preventable through vaccination against Human Papillomavirus (HPV), screening, early diagnosis and timely treatment.

In Sub-Saharan Africa, more than 20% of cancers are caused by HPV, and as much as a third are attributable to viral disease. HPV vaccination – which is very safe and very effective – is an important primary prevention intervention in a comprehensive cervical cancer prevention and control programme.

Although it is recommended by WHO and supported by GAVI (The Vaccine Alliance), relatively few LMICs have successfully implemented a universal vaccination programme. Many lessons have been learned from multiple demonstration projects, and from the wider literature related to vaccination and public health programme implementation and uptake. However, there is an ongoing need to critically engage with challenges related to (for example) communications, delivery strategies and sustainability in a contextually relevant, collaborative way.

Our partnership brings together academics from both life sciences and social sciences, as well as clinicians and operational staff from across Africa, associated with three key partners: AMREF, Doctors with Africa, and the University of Kent.

In this session we will outline our process and outputs from the Partnership Workshop held last week in Nairobi, hosted by AMREF International University. There will be opportunities to discuss the challenges and research gaps identified, and to share our aims and next steps for the network.

Health reforms in Ukraine, and implications for infant and maternal health: Identifying priority areas for policy-relevant research

Professor Sally Kendall
Professor of Community Nursing and Public Health, Centre for Health Services Studies, University of Kent

Dr Olena Nizalova
Senior Research Fellow in Health Economics, School of Economics and Centre for Health Services Studies, University of Kent

Dr Iryna Voloshyna
Professor of Family Medicine, Therapy, Cardiology and Neurology of Postgraduate Education, Zaporizhzhia State Medical University

Dr Natalia Gusak
Associate Professor and Head of School of Social Work Department, National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy

Dr Mariya Bachmaha
Public Health Consultant, Ukraine Catholic University

Olga Nikolaieva
Research Associate, Kyiv School of Economics

As health affects GDP directly through productivity gains and indirectly through educational gains, the importance of addressing population health crises as a way to improve resilience of any society or economy cannot be underestimated. The maternal mortality rate in Ukraine is 24, in Moldova 23, in Georgia 26 (compared with 9 in UK and 4 in Belarus) having implications for social justice as well as the economy. The aim of the session is to provide a platform for all the relevant stakeholders from Ukraine, informed by other countries in the region to discuss the priorities for policy and research in relation to maternal and infant health during a period of health reform in Ukraine and the wider region.
The objectives of the session are the following:

1. Provide an opportunity for the researchers from Ukraine and the wider region to share current research and experience on maternal health with stakeholders from the UK and University of Kent as a result of the GCRF workshop held in Kyiv 3-4 June 2019.
2. Discuss the priorities for health and policy research in relation to maternal and infant health care delivery.
3. Share experiences of developing a policy relevant research agenda for the area of maternal and infant health, which could inform successful implementation of the reform process or the development of new approaches, particularly in Primary Health Care.
4. Provide an opportunity to network and partner for future GCRF projects in this field.

Development Through Higher Education theme

Towards a resilient research environment in South-East Asia
Dr Sarah Tetley
Research Development Officer, Research Services, University of Kent
Dr Helen Leech
Research Development Officer, Research Services, University of Kent
Dr Savita Ayyar
Founder, Jaquaranda Tree
Dr Nguyen Van Tang
Head of Information and Development Department, National Technology Innovation Fund, Ministry of Science and Technology, Vietnam

While most UK-based institutions have well-established systems in place for finding funding, responding to funder requirements (around ethics and ODA compliance, for example) and in managing any subsequent awards, this is not the case for many of our current and potential international partners. This can prevent their full participation in collaborative research initiatives and can also potentially jeopardise project success. If we are to engage in impactful, in-country, research to address the UN Sustainable Development Goals, working with partners to develop research administration and management (RAMA) capacity in Low and Middle Income Countries is clearly a priority. Through GCRF projects led by Professors Scaparra and Robinson, the University of Kent has an established presence in South East Asia.

Our experience of working with these partners to date has shown that they urgently need more research funding but that they can lack knowledge of the international funding landscape and of the specific requirements attached to applying. To begin tackling this, we ran an inaugural ‘Research Resilience’ conference in Hanoi in May 2019.

Attended by over 70 guests from across South East Asia, the event resulted in the sharing of vital knowledge and the beginning of new partnerships intended to secure more research income for the region. The Kent GCRF conference will provide the opportunity to feedback from this event and identify the next steps in building a resilient research environment for South East Asia.

Teaching and learning in conflict and refugee contexts: Supporting Syrian higher education through academic development
Dr Tom Parkinson
Lecturer, Centre for the Study of Higher Education, University of Kent
Dr Musallam Abedtalas
Executive Assistant Professor in Economics, Aleppo University and Assistant Professor in Tourism, Mardin Artuklu University
Nidal Al Aaj
Master’s Degree Candidate, Gaziantep University

Syrian higher education has been decimated since 2011: physical infrastructure is damaged, resources are scarce, populations are displaced, and staff and students suffer from psychological trauma. Thousands of academics have fled Syria, resulting in a considerable deficit of knowledge and educational delivery within the country, and many academics in exile are deskillling due to inactivity and isolation. There is therefore an urgent need to support and sustain Syrian academic communities, both within the country and in exile.

In this breakout session, we will explore themes that emerged from a recent workshop that brought together Syrian academics exiled in Turkey and international counterparts from, or working in other conflict, post-conflict refugee or at-risk contexts (South Africa, Kenya, Belarus, Palestine, Serbia, Northern Ireland). Workshop participants worked together to identify challenges, needs and opportunities associated with teaching and learning in the conflict and refugee contexts, map resources, and formulate strategies. In this session we will consider the how the international academic community should support higher education under threat.

Cultural consequences of university reform in Georgia
Professor David Ayers
Professor of Modernism and Critical Theory, School of English, University of Kent
Professor Giga Zedania
Rector, Iliia State University
Professor Bela Tsipria
Professor of Comparative Literature, Iliia State University

This workshop is examining the effects of the University reforms in Georgia which began to be implemented in 2004. It will bring together scholars from the humanities and social sciences, administrators and former government ministers. In May 2005, Georgia joined the Bologna process, and was the beneficiary of several well-funded international programmes designed to improve quality and governance (https://eqe.ge/eng). In the wake of those quantifiable and documented reforms, this workshop asks how we can evaluate their general societal and cultural effects in creating a resilient and progressive nation, committed to fairness and equality. These general effects go beyond the university structures and are harder to evaluate. This workshop will ask what work, in the disciplines of humanities and social sciences, could be undertaken to assess the nature and durability of the effects of the reforms in the general society, and also asks what the continuing and future role of higher education might be in further advancing Georgia as a progressive and resilient nation.

Preparing for a Changing Environment theme

Co-designing green infrastructure in informal settlements
Dr Silvio Caputo
Senior Lecturer, Kent School of Architecture and Planning
Professor Samer Bagaan
Professor of Planning, Kent School of Architecture and Planning
Dr Fabiana Izaga
Associate Professor, Faculty of Architecture and Urbanism, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro
Dr Lucia Costa
Professor of Landscape Architecture, Federal University of Rio de Janeiro

This presentation will outline and elaborate on the results of a workshop held in Rio de Janeiro in May 2019. The workshop aimed at co-creating solutions to improve environmental and health conditions by enhancing green infrastructure in Morro de Formiga, one of the informal settlements (ie favelas) in Rio de Janeiro. Participants in the workshop included inhabitants of the settlements, representatives from Rio municipality, and academics and students of urbanism from the Universidade Federal do Rio de Janeiro (UFRJ).

Typically, the self-built and unplanned nature of informal settlements results in lack of infrastructure and connectivity with adjacent parts of the city. In Rio de Janeiro, the unregulated growth of some favelas results also in the loss of large forest areas at the fringes of the city and generates a built environment, which lacks the vital benefits that urban infrastructure, and in particular green infrastructure, can provide.
The presentation will provide a background and rationale for the workshop held in May. It will illustrate the overall process that enabled students to develop solutions in response to the needs expressed by the local community and it will critically discuss the initial impact of the project. One impact is a renewed awareness within the community that the favela already possesses contextual features that can be used to strengthen its identity and quality of life. The idea that these features can be transformed into some positive and defining elements of the settlement generated positive reactions and a sense of hope.

Enhancing the implementation of climate change mitigation and adaptation policies in Thailand and Malaysia
Dr Frank Grundig
Lecturer in International Relations, School of Politics and International Relations, University of Kent
Dr Edward Morgan-Jones
Senior Lecturer in Comparative Politics, School of Politics and International Relations, University of Kent
Dr Sharina Abdul Halim
Senior Lecturer at the Institute for Environment and Development, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia
Dr Chantisada Choosuk, Assistant Professor, Prince of Songkla University

Across three workshops in Bangkok and Kuala Lumpur we worked on developing potential interdisciplinary projects on climate change policy implementation including ideas on both, mitigation and adaptation. The workshops were attended by scholars from political science and international relations, environmental science, environmental economics, and natural sciences together with representatives of civil society organisations and government. The main potential project that emerged proposes to map new climate change models, which deliver detailed local scenarios, onto local climate change impacts in South East Asia and investigate ways of employing this new information to mobilise mitigation policy action as well as policies on adaptation. In order to do so we propose to investigate potential policy actions for a number of areas including fresh water, agriculture, industry, tourism, health, architecture and others.

Of particular concern is including different forms of knowledge and enhancing social acceptability of policy measures. A number of smaller projects including a subset of workshop attendees have also emerged, including a project on support for climate change policy options in Thailand, for which we are currently undertaking a pilot project.

Water security, the safe access to clean water and sanitation for everyday living, is a crucial need and is identified as of the UN’s sustainable development goals. Scientists have studied water related issues focusing more on bio physical factors, and have not considered social, political, economic and cultural factors influencing a person’s ability to safely access clean water and sanitation.
**Plenary Speakers**

**Dr James Borrell**  
Research Fellow  
Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew

James' research focuses on combining cutting-edge genetic and genomic methods with high resolution environmental niche modeling to guide conservation and agricultural interventions. In a period where habitat fragmentation and degradation, together with climate change, are major drivers of global biodiversity loss species may survive through a combination of plasticity, dispersal or adaptation. He is interested how local adaptation evolves, and whether strategies such as assisted gene flow or assisted migration can be targeted towards 'at risk' species or populations.

At Kew, James' current research focuses on the underutilised crop enset (Ensete ventricosum). Enset is a close relative of the banana, and the staple food for ~20 million people in Ethiopia. Here, it plays an important food security role where it is known locally as 'the tree against hunger'. Working as part of a collaborative team, he is using state of the art modelling and genomic approaches to understand the diversity of Enset landraces in cultivation as well as explore wild crop relatives. James hopes to use this data to guide a national strategy for enset, and ensure it can continue to deliver food security despite a changing environment.

https://www.kew.org/science/our-science/people/james-s-borrell

**Professor Karen Cox**  
Vice Chancellor and President  
University of Kent

Karen graduated from King’s College London with a BSc (Hons) and Registered General Nurse qualification. She subsequently held a number of clinical posts in Oxford, Southampton, Gloucestershire and Nottingham, specialising in Oncology and Community Health Care. She completed her PhD at the University of Nottingham, funded by a Cancer Research Campaign.

She became a Lecturer at Nottingham in 1999, then Senior Lecturer and was promoted to Professor in 2002.

The main focus of her research and teaching has been patients’ and families’ experiences of cancer clinical trial involvement, cancer trial management and more recently, choice and decision-making in palliative and end of life care. Karen was subsequently appointed to a Pro-Vice Chancellor position in August 2008 and was appointed Deputy Vice-Chancellor in January 2013, both at the University of Nottingham. She joined the University of Kent in August 2017 as Vice-Chancellor and President.

**Ambassador Shahid A Kamal**  
Founder  
COMSATS Centre for Climate and Sustainability (CCCS)

Ambassador Kamal was a career diplomat of Pakistan for 35 years and served at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Prime Minister's Office), United Nations (New York), Organization of Islamic Cooperation (Jeddah), and Diplomatic Missions in Paris, New York, Washington, Stockholm and Berlin. Besides his work in international relations and diplomacy, Ambassador Kamal has taken particular interest in areas of climate change, higher education, entrepreneurship and technology.

He is presently Advisor (Climate Change and Environment) at the Commission on Science and Technology for Sustainable Development in the South – an intergovernmental organization of 27 developing countries from Africa, Asia and Latin America. He also served as Head of Centre for Climate Research and Development and Advisor to the Rector at COMSATS University.

**Dr Simon Kerridge**  
Director of Research Services  
University of Kent

Simon has been a research manager and administrator for over 25 years. He is an EARMA (the European Association of Research Managers and Administrators) alternate Board Member and chair of their Awards Committee; a member of the CASRAI (Consortium Advancing Standards in Research Administration Information) International Steering Committee; the immediate past chair of ARMA, the UK Association of Research Managers and Administrators; and has a passion for developing the RMA profession. He was the PI on the NCURA funded Research Administration as a Profession (RAAAP) project and now leads the follow-on INORMS (International Network of Research Management Societies) RAAAAP TaskForce. He also sits on the UK Government Open Standards Board, and was a member of the team that produced the Metric Tide report and has served on a number of other national UK committees on topics such as research impact, open access, grant management systems, research development, research assessment and research information management. Simon holds a doctorate in research management and administration.

**Dr John Rees**  
GCRF Challenge Leader (Resilience); Director, Earth Hazards & Observatories  
British Geological Survey

John Rees is one of the GCRF Challenge Leaders and a Director of the British Geological Survey. His research interests include characterization of multi-hazards and long-term environmental change, the assessment of risks associated with these and options for building resilience to them. He has contributed to the development of risk analysis tools to support financial instruments in disaster risk reduction. John has worked in Latin America and the Caribbean, sub-Saharan Africa and South East Asia, particularly on urban, coastal and marine risks. He has worked for DFID, UNISDR and Global Facility for Disaster Risk Reduction (World Bank). John has a highly interdisciplinary focus, and led the Major Group for Science and Technology during the development of the UN Sendai Framework.
He chairs the UK Disasters Research Group – a collective of funders addressing UK investment in disaster research, with the UK Collaborative for Development Studies (UKCDS). He has a PhD in Geology from Trinity College, Dublin, and a BSc in Geology from the University of Sheffield. He has previously been Leader of the Natural Hazard and Risk and Resilience themes at NERC, and was the RCUK Risk Research Champion. He currently is a visiting Professor at the University of Leicester.

Phil Ward
Deputy Director of Research Services
University of Kent

Phil has been working in research management for more than fifteen years. Before coming to Kent he worked for the Arts and Humanities Research Council. He engages widely within the sector, including leading conference sessions at ARMA and EARMA, and workshops put on by individual universities. As part of this he writes the Research Fundemntals blog, which provides background intelligence, insight and humour for the UK research community. He was awarded the ARMA Award for Technological Innovation and Application, and was listed as one of the Top 50 Higher Education Social Media Influencers by Jisc.

He has written for a range of outlets, including Research Professional, Times Higher, and the f1000 and Piirus blogs, and was seconded as an editor for Research Professional between 2017-18. In August he is due to take up the post of Director of Eastern Arc, the research collaboration between the universities of Kent, Essex and East Anglia.

Theme Rapporteurs
Development through Higher Education theme
Dr Maia Chankseliani
Associate Professor of Comparative and International Education
University of Oxford

Maia Chankseliani is Associate Professor of Comparative and International Education at the Department of Education and a fellow of St Edmund Hall, University of Oxford.

She leads a flagship master’s course at the Department of Education – the MSc in Comparative and International Education. Maia Chankseliani’s research in comparative and international education draws on the scholarship in social and political theory and also employs ideas from history, economics, geography, and demography to examine participation in and outcomes of tertiary education as well as the development of the global landscape of higher education. Her work on Russia, Eastern Europe, Central Asia, and the Caucasus focuses on the study of higher education internationalisation, democratisation and student mobility, opportunities of higher education participation, migration and work, contributions of higher education to sustainable development, and post-Socialist transformations.

Improving Health and Wellbeing theme
Professor Fiona Clare Dykes PhD, MA, RM, RGN, FHEA
Professor of Maternal and Infant Health
University of Central Lancashire

Fiona Dykes is Professor of Maternal and Infant Health and leads the Maternal and Infant Nutrition and Nurture Unit (MAINN), School of Community Health and Midwifery, University of Central Lancashire which she established in 2000. Fiona is an Adjunct Professor at Western Sydney University and Visiting Professor at Chinese University of Hong Kong. Fiona has a particular interest in the global, socio-cultural and political influences upon infant and young child feeding practices; her methodological expertise is in ethnography and other qualitative research methods. Fiona is author of the monograph Breastfeeding in Hospital/Mothers, Midwives and the Production Line ( Routledge) and co-author of Banking on Milk: An ethnography of donor human milk relations. She is also joint editor of several books including Infant and Young Child Feeding: Challenges to implementing a Global Strategy (Wiley-Blackwell) and Ethnographic Research in Maternal and Child Health ( Routledge).

Preparing for a Changing Environment theme
Professor John Morton
Professor of Development Anthropology
Natural Resources Institute, University of Greenwich

John Morton is Professor of Development Anthropology in the Livelihoods and Institutions Department of the Natural Resources Institute, University of Greenwich, where he has worked since 1993. John has a BA from Cambridge, and a PhD from Hull, both in Social Anthropology. He has lived in Sudan and Pakistan and has worked in over 20 other countries, mainly in Africa.

John works on the impacts of climate change on the rural poor and their opportunities for adaptation. He has served as a Lead Author or Coordinating Lead Author for three IPCC reports, and worked on a range of climate change reviews and projects, leading Climate Learning for African Agriculture, a project which sought to investigate the extent to which African agricultural research and extension organisations were taking account of climate change, and CIRCLE (Climate Impacts Research Capacity and Leadership Enhancement), a DFID-funded capacity-building programme involving over 30 African universities. John also maintains his interest in livestock and dryland development, including governance issues in drylands and new theoretical approaches to researching them.

Sustainable Tourism and Heritage theme
Dr Julia Jeyacheya
Senior Lecturer in International Tourism Management
Manchester Metropolitan University

Julia is a Senior Lecturer in International Tourism Management at Manchester Metropolitan University. Julia is a Senior Lecturer in International Tourism Management at Manchester Metropolitan University. All Saints Campus. Her interests view tourism development through a political economy lens. She has concentrated her fieldwork research in South East Asia, particularly Myanmar and Vietnam, over the past 5 years. Julia has worked on projects for the World Bank, Commonwealth Secretariat and British Council. Most recently, she was in Bagan and Sale, Myanmar completing a short GCRF funded project on land use changes and heritage management.

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Forming Productive and Sustainable Partnerships Panel

Dr Katie McQuaid (Chair)
Senior Research Fellow
School of Geography, University of Leeds
Katie is a Senior Research Fellow in the School of Geography at the University of Leeds. She is an anthropologist with expertise on climate change, gender and sexuality, intergenerationality, and human rights in urban Africa. Her work creatively combines ethnographic and applied arts-based methodologies as tools for research, knowledge exchange and transformation in Uganda, Myanmar, India and Malawi.
She was awarded a UKRI Future Leaders Fellowship in May 2019 for her project ‘Gender, Generation and Climate Change (GENERATE): Creative Approaches to Building Inclusive and Climate Resilient Cities in Uganda and Myanmar’.

Maria Brighenti
UK Partnership Development Officer
Doctors with Africa CUAMM
Maria works as UK Partnership development officer at Doctors with Africa CUAMM, an international NGO working for health system strengthening in Africa.
Focus of her work is the development and management of relations with institutional and private donors, organizations, NGOs, research institutions and public health experts, focusing especially on the United Kingdom. Maria holds a MSc in Socio-Ecological Economics and Politics from the Vienna University of Economics and Business.

Professor Emma Crewe
Professor of Social Anthropology
SOAS, University of London
Emma Crewe is a Research Professor at SOAS and a Research Supervisor at the University of Hertfordshire. An anthropologist by training, she has taught at Sussex University and SOAS, University of London. She has worked in international development since the 1980s as a social scientist, policy adviser, manager and trustee/chair in international NGOs. Her ethnographic research into organisations focuses on INGOs and parliaments in the UK, Eastern Africa and South Asia and she has advised the UK Parliament on research, management and evaluation.
She is the Director of the Global Research Network on Parliaments and People (http://parliaments4people.com/), giving grants and support to scholars and artists in Myanmar and Ethiopia in the cause of deepening democracy 2017-2020. This year she is embarking on a global comparative ethnographic study of parliaments in Brazil, Ethiopia, Fiji, India, the UK and the US with five other scholars (funded by an European Research Council Advanced Grant).

Rachel Houghton
Independent Consultant, Partnership Broker & Coach in the Humanitarian & Development sector
For the past 20 years Rachel has worked in a variety of collaborative initiatives in the international development and humanitarian sectors, across the UN, NGOs, the Red Cross, and media development organisations. She is an accredited partnership broker, through the Partnership Brokers Association, and is passionate about the power of collaboration.
Her most rewarding professional experiences have been in convening, shaping and developing global networks and consortia; in connecting high-profile, global organisations in their search for solutions to shared challenges; and in providing strategic support to teams as they go through change processes toward new strategies and approaches to work.
Rachel is also passionate about coaching, and particularly loves working with the next generation of young leaders. As a psychosynthesis leadership coach she is concerned with the nature and nurture of ‘her clients’ selves as much as with their professional development.
Rachel recently co-authored the chapter ‘Follow the Leader? Leadership in a Collaborative Model’ for the book Shaping Sustainable Change: The Role of Partnership Brokering in Optimising Collaborative Action published by Greenleaf in Autumn 2018. She has a BA (Hons) in English and American Literature from UCL and an MSc (Distinction) in Social Policy and Social Research from City University.

Dr Jastinder Kaur
Research Fellow
SOAS University of London
Jastinder Kaur is a Research Fellow at SOAS. A political anthropologist, Dr Kaur’s ethnographic research focuses on the intersections of culture, conflict and conviviality through the prism of coup d’etats; and on narratives of state-making and belonging in fragile, post-colonial, multi-ethnic societies. She is currently Research and Policy Officer for the AHRC-GCRF funded ‘Reducing Inequalities in Public Engagement in Myanmar’ project (Feb 2019 – Feb 2020), which was conceived and operates as an international coalition led by partners in Myanmar, and which advocates for deeper and more inclusive democracy. Dr Kaur will develop an ethnographic evaluation reflecting on the relationships, processes and outcomes of the project; and reflect on the challenges of thinking and doing development differently. Next year, Dr Kaur will be a post-doctoral researcher on the five-year, ERC-funded, ‘Global Comparative Ethnography of Parliaments’ project led by Professor Emma Crewe.

Dr Jeremy Rossman
President and Founder
Research-Aid Networks
Dr Rossman is the President and Founder of Research-Aid Networks and an Honorary Senior Lecturer in Virology at the University of Kent.
Research-Aid Networks seeks to improve global humanitarian aid by directly facilitating interdisciplinary collaborations between researchers, aid organizations and the communities they serve, enabling community-centric, cost-effective, evidence-based community development and humanitarian aid.
Research Services at Kent

Research Services provide a range of services to support the University’s research community, from promoting funding opportunities and helping with the development of applications, to negotiating research contracts and administering awards.

More broadly it acts as a champion for research at Kent. It organises events to promote research, runs the internal peer review system, facilitates collaboration across disciplines, provides ethical oversight of research, and coordinates the University’s submission to the Research Excellence Framework.

International Partnerships

The University’s Internationalisation Strategy focuses on enhancing our global presence, profile and esteem through a wide range of activities which encompass student/staff exchanges, visiting faculty, dual awards, joint research, enterprise activities and progression arrangements.

International Partnerships play a pivotal role in positioning the University of Kent’s international impact as it seeks to drive forward to meet its strategic aims and objectives. The International Partnerships Directorate supports the University in realising its strategic objectives through enhancing and deeping international partnerships with institutions that share Kent’s founding principles and values and are strategically advantageous for Kent’s advancement.

Research Services key contacts

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Further information

See more of what we do here: www.kent.ac.uk/researchservices
Follow us on Twitter: @UniKentResearch
Also see:
University of Kent Research Services: https://research.kent.ac.uk/researchservices

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GCRF & THE NEWTON FUND

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 Cooperation 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.

MORE INFORMATION
Learn more about the ODA: www.newtonfund.ac.uk/about/what-is-oda
OUR RESEARCH

PROFESSOR ELENA KOROSTELEVA
Professor of International Politics

Project
GCRF UKRI Comprehensive Capacity-Building in Eastern Neighbourhood and Central Asia: research integration, impact governance and sustainable communities (COMPASS).

Partners
Cambridge University, ADA University, Belarusian State University, Tajik National University, and the University of World Economy and Diplomacy in Uzbekistan.

The project aims to build global partnerships and help develop capacity in research, policy and public impacts at the top-level higher education institutions in Eastern Europe and Central Asia. The project seeks to establish regional hubs of excellence across the eastern region and Central Asia, and will follow two strategic approaches:

• Conceptually, it will explore new approaches to governance with a focus on community, peoplehood, identity, and order (domestically and internationally) to make governance more effective and sustainable

• Practically, the project will seek to enhance relations between the UK and partner universities, and to develop cooperation along the following three dimensions:
  1. Research integration
  2. Policy impact
  3. Sustainable communities

Our long-term objectives, based on a dedicated funding strategy and the University of Kent’s institutional support, are to make our research on governance, order and resilience a signature theme at Kent, connect our centre with similar hubs of excellence across the world, and make global and domestic governance more sustainable.

MORE INFORMATION
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https://research.kent.ac.uk/gcrf-compass
Follow this project on Twitter: @GCRF_COMPASS

PROFESSOR COLIN ROBINSON
Professor in Biotechnology

Project
GCRF UKRI Establishment of biopharmaceutical and animal vaccine production capacity in Thailand and neighbouring SE Asian countries

Partners
University College London (UCL), Imperial College, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM), BIOTEC Bangkok and the National Biopharmaceutical Facility in Bangkok

The goal of this project is for UK and Thai experts to work together to establish state of the art technical capacity for recombinant protein production in Thailand, and subsequently elsewhere in Southeast Asia, which can be expanded upon and consolidated for future growth. The teams will develop powerful production strains and also work on the associated downstream activities to ensure regulatory approval. The ultimate goal is to make low-cost, widely available medicines and animal vaccines.

This project brings together Thai groups, including scientists based at National Biopharmaceutical Facility and the National Center for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (BIOTEC), and UK groups at the University of Kent, UCL and Imperial College.

The technical expertise is backed by Bangkok-based UK specialists in Southeast Asian healthcare, economic policies and dissemination tools (LSHTM).

There are long-term objectives to facilitate the spread of expertise beyond Thailand, and all countries should be able to benefit from the insights learned from trying to drive production costs for biopharmaceuticals and vaccines to be as low as possible.

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https://research.kent.ac.uk/gcrfbiopharma
Follow this project on Twitter: @GCRF_Biopharma
Vietnam is ranked globally as the country with the fourth highest exposure to flooding with monsoon rains and typhoons causing havoc along the coastline. Climate change is exacerbating the intensity of these 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.

Investment strategies for urban road 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 to 1) analyse the impacts of flooding of urban transport systems on a city’s economy and society, and 2) identify cost-efficient investments in flood mitigation measures.

In recent years, the economic and social impact of religious actors and faith-based groups have been significant, in particular in large cities of the developing world. In some contexts, for instance in African mega-cities, religious groups have been at the forefront of development initiatives often involving the creation of alternative urban spaces and large infrastructure and buildings, providing key services in health care or education. In often difficult, informal and unstable urban environments, this research is conducted in two of the fastest growing cities in Africa: Lagos and Kinshasa.

This project will explore, and provide both an evidence base and practical recommendations aimed at promoting functioning civic urban culture.

Dr David Garbin
Senior Lecturer in Sociology

Project
British Academy GCRF Religious Urbanisation and Infrastructural Lives in African Mega-Cities (RUA Project)

Partners
University of Toronto, University of York, University of Lagos and the University of Kinshasa in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

This project will explore, and provide both an evidence base and practical recommendations aimed at promoting functioning civic urban culture.

The project aims to address the following questions:
• Do these religious spaces solve or exacerbate everyday problems faced by residents?
• How are religious groups reimagining the city they are shaping and transforming?
• To what extent do religious institutions provide symbolic and material resources to negotiate unpredictability and socio-economic uncertainties through production of urban/infrastructural space?
A message from the Director

As part of the University of Kent’s GCRF agenda, we have established a Global Challenges Doctoral Centre (GCDC). The GCDC started its work in the academic year 2018-2019 and is dedicated to doctoral research addressing the challenges of economic development and well-being faced by developing countries in the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Development Assistance Committee (DAC list). The GCDC’s main objectives are two-fold:

First, the GCDC provides a nucleus for PhD training activities related to research finding solutions to global challenges at Kent. In 2018-2019, the GCDC has organized two methods workshops entitled ‘Introduction to GIS Mapping’ and ‘Inclusive Community Driven Methodologies in Practice: Researching Vulnerable Populations’, both convened by Dr Trude Sundberg; Lecturer in Social Policy at Kent. Together with the GCRF Compass project, the GCDC is also organizing a Training School for Early Career Researchers that will take place immediately after the 2019 GCRF Conference (2-6 July 2019). Covering governance, resilience, and order in Eurasia and beyond, the Training School will bring together 26 early career researchers across the disciplines of politics, law, history, anthropology, economics, and architecture to discuss their research as well as to receive dedicated skills training (on fieldwork funding, publishing internationally, and effective networking).

Second, the GCDC offers eight doctoral scholarships (for 3.5 years) per year that are open to students interested in pursuing PhD research at all Kent schools and centres. To be eligible for a GCDC scholarship, the envisaged PhD research must directly and primarily benefit economic and social problems faced by developing countries, as well as fit within the wider GCRF aims and specified challenges. In the academic year 2018-2019, the GCDC has supported four PhD researchers with scholarships, while another eight PhD students will start in the academic year 2019-2020.

Furthermore, the GCDC is also inviting interested current PhD students at Kent to join the centre as affiliate members. Benefits of becoming a GCDC affiliate student include priority in participating in GCDC methods workshops, as well as access to and exchange with an interdisciplinary community of PhD researchers working on GCRF-related themes. If you are interested in the work of the GCDC, you can find further information on the web here: www.kent.ac.uk/graduateschool/gcdc.html. Please also do not hesitate to get in touch with us via email: kentGCDC@kent.ac.uk

Dr Ingvild Bode
School of Politics and International Relations
The University of Kent shares major principles with the GCRF and has had great success with the Fund since its inception. These strong ties led to the University receiving additional GCRF funding in 2018, and Kent agreed a strategy with Research England to put in place a number of key initiatives with these funds:

• An annual GCRF conference to showcase the University’s engagement with and outputs from GCRF; discuss the challenges of GCRF activities and research and identify potential projects and collaborations going forward.

• A GCRF Workshops Fund to support twelve GCRF workshops that will be reported on during the course of the conference breakout sessions. These workshops all took place in DAC list countries in the lead up to the conference and focused on building resilience within various cultures and contexts.

• A GCRF Partnership Fund to enable and facilitate the creation and development of links between Kent and colleagues in ODA-compliant countries. More detail of the projects supported through this fund are available here: https://research.kent.ac.uk/researchservices/gcrf-projects

• A GCRF Fortuity Fund to provide an agile response to immediate and short-term needs of academics working on projects that directly benefit ODA recipient countries. More detail of the projects supported through this fund are available here: https://research.kent.ac.uk/researchservices/gcrf-projects

• A Global Challenges Doctoral Centre to support the next generation of researchers in linking with ODA-compliant countries. You can read more about the GCDC on the corresponding page.

What next for the GCRF at Kent?
Although the University’s internal GCRF schemes will likely continue into the new academic year, what form these schemes will take is still to be confirmed. Kent academics are encouraged to keep an eye on the University’s GCRF webpage (https://research.kent.ac.uk/researchservices/gcrf/) for information for 2019/20 and send feedback to Research Services at globalchallenges@kent.ac.uk
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)
Host: Dr Andrew Cohen – School of History and International Relations in South and Southern Africa, c.1900-2000
Fellow: Dr Neophytos Loizides – School of Politics and International Relations (PolIR)
Partners: Dr Deirdre McCann – University of the Free State, South Africa and Labour Migration and Labour Fellowships (2017)

UK-Gulf Institutional Links (2017)
Enhancing Environmental Resilience in Expanding Oil Palm Landscapes: Setting Research Priorities and Fostering Networking Among Researchers and Stakeholders in Malaysia
Investigator: Professor Andrea Falqui – King Abdullah University of Science and Technology, Saudi Arabia
Partners: Professor Caroline Rooney – School of Politics and International Relations (PolIR)

Saud Arabia

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: Professor Andrea Falqui – King Abdullah University of Science and Technology, Saudi Arabia
Partners: Professor Caroline Rooney – School of Politics and International Relations (PolIR)

China

Newton International Fellowships (2014)
Characterisation of Fluidisation Processes through Advanced Monitoring and Computational Modelling
Investigator: Dr Jay Zhang (SPSSR)
Host: Professor Yong Yan – School of Engineering and Digital Arts (EDA)
Fellow: Dr Jingyuan Sun – Zhejiang University, China
Amount: £66,000

Researcher Links – Workshop (2019)
Promoting Social Embeddedness of New Biotecnologies: 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
Investigator: Dr Chao Wang (EDA)
Fellow: Dr Yi Jin Pan – Northeastern University, China
Amount: £99,000

Newton Mobility Grants (2018)
Data Compressed Ultrafast Single-Pixel Optical Imaging Using Variable Dielectric Liquid Lens
Investigator: Dr Chao 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
Investigator: Dr Charles Vairappan – Universiti Malaysia Sabah, Malaysia
Partner: Dr Charles Vairappan – Universiti Malaysia Sabah, Malaysia
Amount: £84,601

Newton Advanced Fellowship (2018)
Epistemic Injustice, Reasons and Agency
Host: Dr Lubomira Radosilka (SECL)
Fellow: Professor Veli Mitova, 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 Mohamed Shahbaz – 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)
Partners: 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)
Partners: 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 Bonnenfand – 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 Kavakli 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 Ayşe K Üskül – School of Psychology
Fellow: Dr Vesel Elgin, Abant Izzet Baysal University
Amount: £66,000

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

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 Pappous – 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 (SECL)
Fellow: Dr Aldo Dinucci, Federal University of Sergipe, Brazil
Amount: £74,000

Newton Advanced Fellowships (2017)
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 Fabiana da Cunha Saddi – Federal University of Goiás, 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 cobalamin (vitamin B12) bioavailability in culturally appropriate foods in India

Investigator: Professor Martin Warren (Biosciences)
Partners: 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 Saksonprom, BIOTEC-Thailand
Amount: £74,000

MORE INFORMATION
For more information about the GCRF and Newton Fund, please visit:
www.ukri.org/research/global-challenges-research-fund/
www.newtonfund.ac.uk
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 clear that it’s co-created 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 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.

A version of this article first appeared in Funding Insight in October 2018 and is reproduced with kind permission of Research Professional. For more articles like this, visit www.researchprofessional.com
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.