



Changes to UK ODA research funding

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International Development in UK – Historical Context

- **1960** white paper ‘best way to lift poorer nations out of poverty is through economic development’
- **1961** Department of Technical Cooperation set up to deal with the technical side of the aid programme
- **1964** Ministry of Overseas Development (ODM) created with Minister of Overseas Development
- **1965** white paper ‘UK has moral duty for development and development is in the nation’s long-term interest’
- **1970** ODM is dissolved, Overseas Development Administration (ODA), set up as a functional wing of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO).
- **1974** ODA is once again to be a separate ministry, as the Ministry of Overseas Development, under own minister
- **1979** Overseas Development Administration (ODA), a functional wing of the FCO
- **1997** Department for International Development (DFID) a separate government department led by a cabinet minister.



DFID focus

- Lead UK work to end extreme poverty
- To make global development a national priority
- To foster new ‘aid relationships’ with governments of developing countries.
- Acts of parliament
 - The International Development Act 2002 clarified the purpose of aid spending as poverty reduction
 - International Development (Reporting and Transparency) Act 2006 defined DFID’s reporting to Parliament through its Annual Report.
 - 2015 0.7% GNI target enshrined in law



Changing global context

- Transition from Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) to Sustainable Development Goals or Global Goals
- Ebola crisis has highlighted the need to focus on strengthening health systems
- Rise and influence of foundations and new donors

Global Goals (<http://www.globalgoals.org/>)





UK Aid Strategy Nov 2015

- 1 Strengthening global peace, security and governance
- 2 Strengthening resilience and response to crises
- 3 Promoting global prosperity
- 4 Tackling extreme poverty and helping the world's most vulnerable



UK aid:

tackling global challenges in the
national interest



Tackling extreme poverty and helping the world's most vulnerable

the government will strive to eliminate extreme poverty by 2030 and support the world's poorest people to ensure that every person has access to basic needs, including prioritising the rights of girls and women. This will build security, stability and opportunity that will benefit us all.



Main areas of focus in strategy

- 50% DFID spend on fragile states and regions
- Increase spending for Syrian crisis and related region
- End all general budget support to better target spending
- Cross government Conflict, Stability and Security Fund (CSSF) to underpin security objectives via NSC
- £500 million ODA reserve to respond to emerging crises
- £1bn Ross Fund
- Cross government Prosperity Fund, led by NSC, for promoting global prosperity



“The fundamental shift in how we use 0.7% of our national income will show there is no distinction between reducing poverty, tackling global challenges and servicing our national interest – all are inextricably linked”



Manifesto commitments

- Uphold 0.7% GNI
- Support global goals
- Prevent climate change
- Immunisation to save 1.4 million children's lives
- A least 60m people get access to clean water and sanitation
- Improve nutrition for at least 50m people
- Develop new products to tackle world's deadliest infectious diseases and save lives from malaria and work to end preventable maternal and child deaths
- Lead response to humanitarian emergencies
- Promote girls' education and increase access to family planning
- Tackle violence against women and girls
- Boost growth and jobs
- Promote the 'golden thread'
- Meet global transparency standards
- Boost international partnerships with UK institutions
- Triple International Citizen Service
- Double aid match
- Help people in UK to give or lend money
- Expand payment by results
- Keep aid untied
- Maintain independent DFID
- Modernise OECD rules
- Strengthen Commonwealth democratic values
- Access to global automatic tax information exchange
- Work for peace in Syria and Iraq
- Uphold sovereignty in Ukraine
- Support Govt in Afghanistan
- Tackling sexual violence in conflict
- Help women and children who have fled Syria
- Support democratic transition in Burma



Ross Fund Portfolio - £1bn announced in November 2015

DFID

- New products for infectious diseases
- New products for diseases with emerging resistance
- New products for neglected tropical diseases
- Research and development of new products for diseases of epidemic potential
- Implementation programmes for malaria and NTDs

Dept of Health (DH)

- UK vaccine R&D network
- Rapid response team
- GSK bio-preparedness organisation
- Fleming fund
- AMR global innovation fund



Non-DFID ODA research funding

- Global Challenges Fund - £1.5bn through BEIS (who oversee research councils)
- Newton Fund – through BEIS
- Non-communicable diseases – through DH
- Tobacco control – through DH
- Ross Fund Portfolio – through DH



ODA funded research

- Focus on development challenges
- Multi-disciplinary
- Attracting new research teams/ideas to the field
- Must show value for money
- Must be in line with UK Aid strategy
- Can be investigated by Independent Commission on Aid Impact (ICAI)
- Must qualify for classification as ODA (OECD-DAC definitions)



What should research teams think about

- Addressing key development challenges
- Traction in the countries where research is taking place
- Wider range of partners with focus on impact
- Should policy makers or others be involved
- How to work across disciplines
- Is the work going to deliver value for money
- How to be a good partner/collaborator



Thinking about impact

- Varies across disciplines and sectors. Can extend from basic to applied to explicitly translational (i.e. impact focussed)
- Impact is inherently unpredictable – work to increase chance of impact, rather than directly delivering it
- Impact varies across a portfolio (e.g. very high impact for some research grants helps justify wider portfolio of lower impact)
- Impact related to risk – balanced portfolio includes higher risk/lower likelihood/potentially very high impact research



Issues to think about when developing partnerships

- Identify high priority, researchable problems for maximum likelihood of impact – the closer the involvement of LMIC stakeholders in problem definition, the better
- Equal partnerships from outset
- Recognise real barriers to Southern participation:
 - May not be able to participate in early stages without financial support
 - UK peer review culture – academic panel culture focused on research excellence above Southern partnership/LMIC sensitivity/participation
 - Operating models – southern orgs may operate on soft funding alone (no core funding) which may be barrier to leading bids; or being paid in arrears; or meeting standard reporting expectations
 - Due diligence – may struggle to prove financial capacity
 - Capacity building can be done in-country, doesn't need to be done in UK

Research Fairness Initiative

RFI Conference: Event Outcomes



RFI: Reporting for Fair Partnerships in research and innovation for global health



What Problem does the RFI address?



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Research Fairness Initiative <http://rfi.cohred.org>

- How to overcome systematically unfair outcomes between partners
 - Ability to shape the research agenda
 - Competitiveness for scientific productivity
 - Impact
 - Capacity building
 - Partners' credit and recognition for contribution
 - Access to data
 - Access to intellectual property
 - Compensation for participation in research partnerships among research institutions/organisations globally

Global Goal 17



Being a good partner

- Have institution wide guiding principles for good research management in partner overseas institutions
- Include partners in the least developed countries
- Good overseas institutions are overstretched – how to build capacity to help them to make more impact?
- Overheads and governance are important
- Link with country priorities (local or national)
- Avoid any imbalance between the status of UK and Southern collaborators, e.g. tasks when doing the research, authorship on papers, participation in governance/management/supervision of the project



Different funding streams



GCRF – Research Agenda for Enabling Change

- Support excellent research that directly contributes to the sustainable and inclusive prosperity of people in developing countries. It addresses the ambitions and aspirations of the SDGs and underpins the UK aid strategy
- Overarching framework:
 - Leave no one behind
 - Sustainable economies and societies
 - Support peace and justice



Vision

- Create new knowledge and drive innovation that helps to ensure that everyone across the globe has access to:
 - secure and resilient food systems supported by sustainable marine resources and agriculture
 - sustainable health and well being
 - inclusive and equitable quality education
 - clean air, water and sanitation
 - affordable, reliable, sustainable energy



DH ODA funding

- Focus on Non Communicable Disease
- Spending through NIHR
- Open to researchers in all four of the UK countries



Newton Fund (2014-21 £735million)

- To promote the economic development and social welfare of either the partner countries or, through working with the partner country, to address the well being of communities. It strengthens partner country science and innovation capacity and unlocks further funding to support this work
- Delivered through 15 UK partners that develop and run calls, and allocate and manage the funding
- 3 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 DFID Research Review

- Launched on 26th October
- Focuses on DFID's areas of comparative advantage
- Complementary to other research funds



DFID Research Review

- https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/564075/Research-review4.pdf

DFID Research Review



October 2016

High priority areas

- **Impact:** does the research focus on an important and practical development challenge?
- **Additionality:** does DFID support address an important gap in research funding?
- **Quality:** will the commissioned research be of the highest quality?
- **Deliverability:** will the research deliver benefits within a realistic timeframe?
- **Cost:** has every possible step been taken to control costs?



Fragile and conflict states

- Research to address critical evidence gaps, including security and justice, migration, taxation and accountability, and tackling political constraints to growth, peace, and development.
- New research will include work on how to tackle cross border drivers of conflict and suffering such as serious organised crime, human trafficking and child exploitation.
- DFID will initiate new multi-disciplinary research on how to support transformational development in African cities.
- DFID will significantly increase support for research and innovation in humanitarian settings, including stronger focus on building resilience, addressing protracted crises, reducing vulnerability to shocks, and delivering education in emergencies.



Health

- A significant scale up in health through the Ross Fund Portfolio to deliver on the government's commitment to lead a major new global programme to accelerate the development of vaccines and drugs to eliminate the world's deadliest infectious diseases.
- New research will also provide evidence on how to build stronger and more resilient health systems as the basis for efforts to reach the most vulnerable and respond to health crises, and how to strengthen sexual, reproductive, and maternal health programmes for women and adolescents.



Climate Energy and Water

- A significant research investment on climate, energy and water, including how to deliver and put into use innovations in access to water and climate science, build resilience and integrate weather disaster risk reduction into development approaches, and scale up access to clean energy.



Agriculture

- A continuation of large-scale research investment into sustainable agriculture, to improve nutrition and food security and increase resilience to climate change in developing countries.
- New research will include evidence on how commercialisation and food systems could be more effective in assisting the poorest people, particularly women.
- Speeding up the development and use of more productive and resilient crops and agricultural technologies, and understanding how new technologies can be put into use in a cost effective way will improve food security and generate prosperity for poor farmers. This is critical for accelerating economic growth, particularly in Africa.

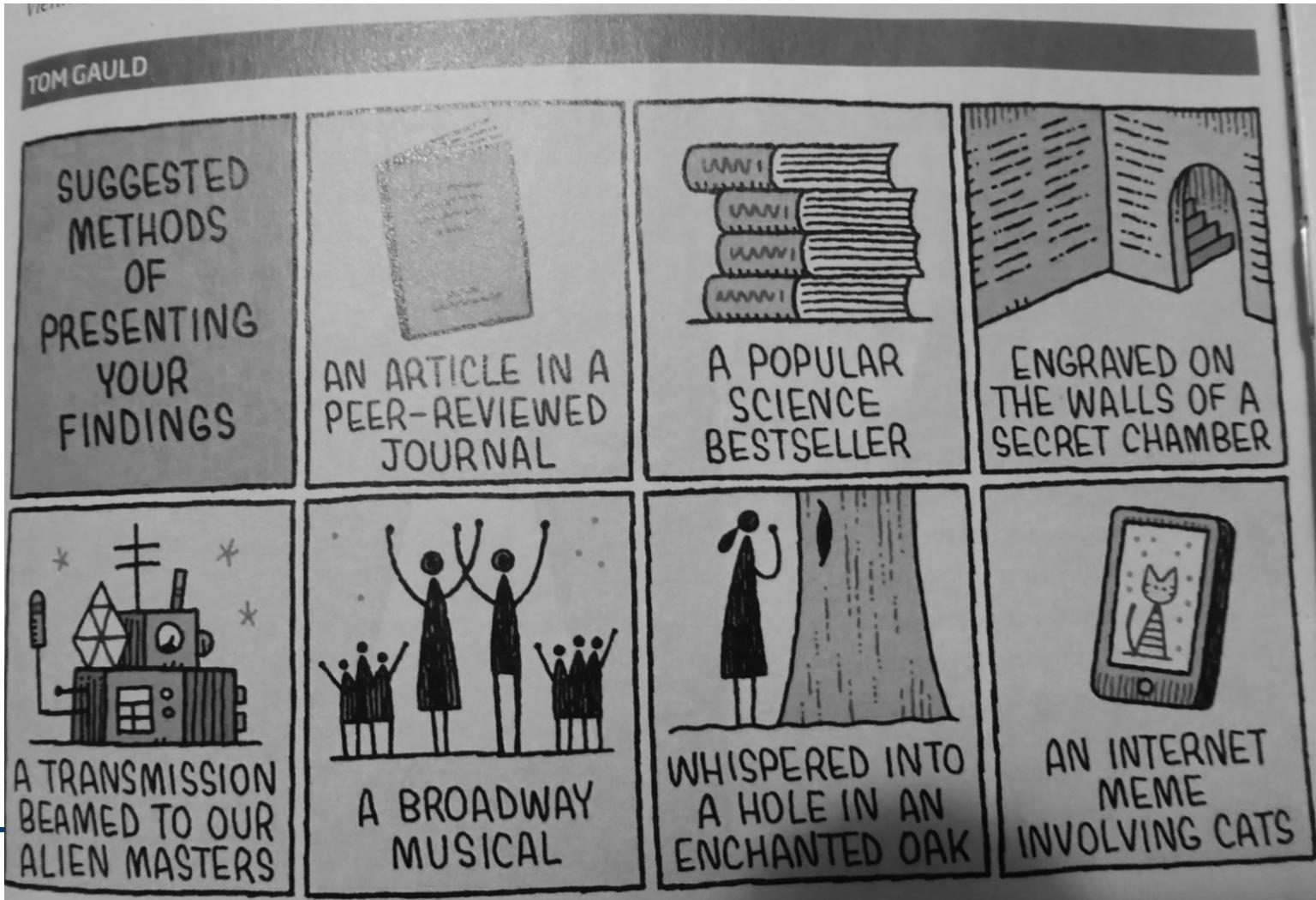


Economic Development

- Research to help better understand what works best to build the foundations for economic development – including how to accelerate development through trade, support innovation and private sector growth, support the critical transition of youth into employment, and address constraints to the economic and social empowerment of women.
- This will include a significant increase in our investment in education research, including a major initiative to use digital technology to transform learning outcomes.



Increased focus on research uptake





.... And finally

More information at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-international-development>

More information about research funded by DFID at:

<https://www.gov.uk/dfid-research-outputs>