

Webinar

Food & nutrition research for health in the developing world: bioavailability & nutrient content



Housekeeping

- Please make sure your computer **speakers** are turned **ON** to allow you to hear the webinar
- Please make sure your computer **microphone** is switched **OFF** to avoid audio feedback (check the microphone icon at the top of the Adobe Connect window - it should be coloured **grey** if **OFF**)
- If you have a technical issue, please chat to 'BBSRC host' in the designated chat window
- Please ask questions in the 'Q & A' window throughout the webinar
- Please keep questions with more than one part within the same instant message; if sent as separate messages they will not appear together in the Q and A window
- There may be delays before questions are answered, depending on how many questions are received
- Responses to questions that we are not able to answer during the webinar will be provided as soon as possible afterwards
- Specific questions about the details of individual proposals should be e-mailed directly to FNH@bbsrc.ac.uk
- Questions about the Je-S system should be e-mailed directly to JeShelp@rcuk.ac.uk

Why a webinar?

- Anticipate the call to be very competitive
- Webinar to provide additional guidance on BBSRC's expectations:
 - scope (inclusions and exclusions)
 - eligibility and partnerships
 - ODA compliance
- Opportunity for you to ask questions



Agenda

- Overview of the call
- Overview of GCRF and ODA compliance
- Scientific Scope
- Eligibility and Submission
- Key Dates
- Questions received to date
- HarvestPlus resources
- Q & A session

Call overview (1)

- BBSRC GCRF allocation
- Up to £6.9 million available depending on the quality of proposals received
- Funds can be requested for up to two years, but projects must start on 1 April 2019 and complete by 31 March 2021

- Closes – **11th September**
- Proposals will be assessed through full peer review
- Assessment panel January/ February

Call overview (2)

Purpose:

- interdisciplinary research across the agriculture – food – nutrition – health pathway
- sustainably deliver more nutritious foods to improve physical and cognitive health across the lifecourse in developing countries
- enhance the nutritional content and bioavailability of nutrients in a diverse range of culturally appropriate foods
- determine the impact on human health outcomes

GCRF and ODA compliance :

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Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF)



GCRF is a £1.5 billion fund announced by the UK Government in 2015. It forms part of the UK's Official Development Assistance (ODA) commitment.

The GCRF programmes aim to:

- Promote challenge-led disciplinary and interdisciplinary research, including the participation of researchers who may not previously have considered the applicability of their work to development issues
- 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



Cutting-edge research which addresses the problems faced by developing countries

2015 Government Spending Review Outcomes

Official Development Assistance (ODA)

GCRF forms part of the UK Government's commitment to ODA and as such research supported by GCRF must meet ODA eligibility criteria.

- Applicants must demonstrate that the **primary purpose** of the proposed research is to promote the economic development and welfare of people in developing countries.
- **Any country on the OECD DAC list of ODA recipients is eligible as a partner for this call**
(with the exception of countries due to graduate from the list during the lifetime of the project, which currently includes Antigua and Barbuda and Palau)

ODA relevance within applications

- The ODA relevance of the planned research should be clearly evident **throughout the proposal**.
- It is now mandatory that the title and abstract of all GCRF proposals reflect the ODA challenge that the research aims to address.

ODA Compliance Questionnaire:

- Applicants must submit a separate **standalone ODA compliance questionnaire**
- This should make clear the ODA relevance of the proposed project without reference to other documents in the proposal

GCRF relevance will form part of the assessment process.
Please refer to the Guidance for Applicants for further details.



Scientific Scope:

Food & nutrition research for health in the developing world: bioavailability & nutrient content



Background

- In July 2017, BBSRC, in collaboration with the Department for International Development (DFID), ESRC, MRC and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF), led a small delegation of UK academics to participate in a GCRF nutrition networking event that linked in with the [Agriculture, Nutrition and Health Academy](#) Conference in Kathmandu, Nepal.
- The purpose of the event was to bring together UK and developing country researchers/ stakeholders to advance understanding of the complex relationships between agriculture, food, nutrition and health, identify research challenges, and associated scientific and partnering opportunities, informed by resident researchers with understanding of the systems in the developing world. This programme is taking forward some of the research opportunities identified from that event.

Call scope (1)

- Proposals must focus on issues primarily relevant to developing countries and be designed to improve the health of the populations it intends to serve
- **Aims:**
 - Generate health benefits by investing in interdisciplinary research across the agriculture – food – nutrition – health pathway to sustainably and cost-effectively deliver more nutritious foods to improve physical and cognitive health across the lifecourse in developing countries
 - Improve the nutritional content and bioavailability of nutrients in a diverse range of foods to meet nutritional requirements and address malnutrition/ key nutrient deficiencies in the developing world

Call scope (2)

- Multiple areas of opportunity, and a number of illustrative questions and approaches to tackle these questions are provided in call text

e.g.

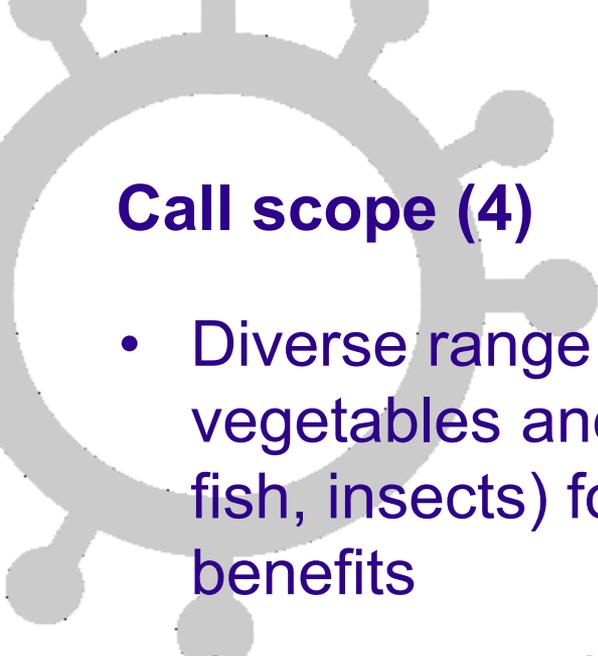
- What constitutes a healthy diet and how does it vary at different stages across the lifecourse, across different groups, within populations and in different regions of the world?
- What culturally appropriate foods should be produced and consumed to improve health in developing countries?
- How do we diversify the food produced to provide nutritious food that people want to eat, and what impact does this have on health outcomes?

Please see the call text for the full list

Call scope (3)

- Approaches to tackle these questions could include a number of areas.
- Examples are given in the call text such as:
 - lifestyle, food environments, and food related behaviours
 - dietary diversity, alternative food sources
 - food fortification and reformulation
 - biofortification, genomic selection in crops/farmed animals, phenotyping
 - informative indicators, e.g. biomarkers, nutrigenomics, nutri-epigenetics

Please see the call text for more information



Call scope (4)

- Diverse range of foods such as staple crops, fruits and vegetables and animal-sourced foods (e.g. eggs, milk, fish, insects) for human consumption and health benefits
- Crops grown for farmed animal feeds to improve the nutritional content of animal-sourced foods

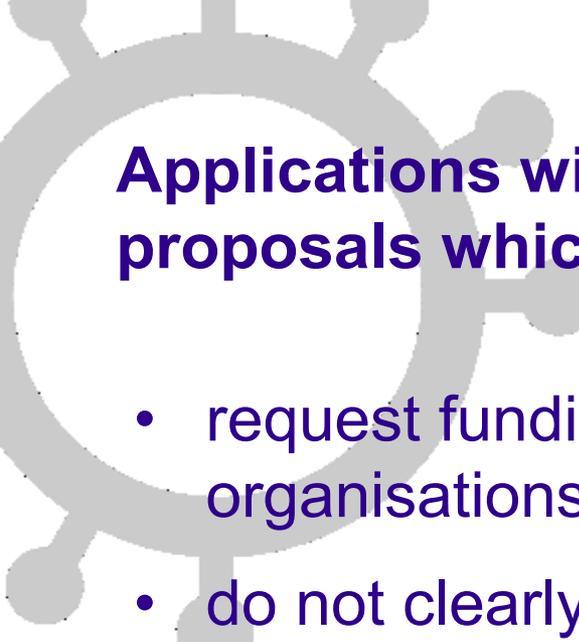
Exclusions

Proposed research must be predominantly within BBSRC remit and include a substantial element of investigative bioscience

- Primary food production relating to increasing productivity, both crop and animal (precision agriculture, pest/disease resistance)
- Nutrition solely directed at improving animal health
- Food safety: contamination of food by pathogens, toxins or other harmful substances at any stage of the food-chain
- Research directed at human pathology and disease, e.g. cancer, diabetes. Research solely focussed on obesity is also excluded, but is included when considering it in the context of the 'double burden' of malnutrition
- Epidemiological research and the establishment of new cohorts

Eligibility and Submission: **Food & nutrition research for health in the developing world: bioavailability & nutrient content**





Applications will be rejected before peer review for proposals which:

- request funding for ineligible individuals, organisations or categories of expenditure
- do not clearly demonstrate ODA relevance
- are not predominantly within BBSRC's remit or do not include a substantial element of investigative bioscience
- are outside the scope of the call
- are narrow in focus and do not span the agriculture-nutrition-health interfaces

Eligibility, remit and partnerships

Proposals :

- must be led by an **eligible PI** based in an eligible UK research institution
- may include **eligible overseas Co-Is** based in any of the countries listed on the website (strongly recommended)
- must be **predominantly within BBSRC's remit**, and include a substantial element of investigative bioscience
- must integrate the expertise of scientists in the UK with the knowledge of partners in DAC listed countries in **co-designed** research

Key dates:

Call opens	2 July 2018
Webinar	11 July 2018
Deadline for applications	11 Sept 2018
Funding decisions	January/ February 2019
Projects must start	1 April 2019

<https://bbsrc.ukri.org/funding/filter/2018-gcrf-food-nutrition-health/>

Pre webinar questions:

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Questions received pre-Webinar

- What size of project are you expecting?
- Can you please clarify the if the £2 million maximum amount for the proposal is the 100% fEC value or the 80% grant value, as the DAC country partners will be paid at 100%.
- Is there a limit to the number of applicants from each institute for this call?
- Can I be involved in more than one proposal?



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Nutrition
and Health

LED BY IFPRI 

Thank you





We will now hold a Q& A session
Please submit questions into the
Q & A chat box

