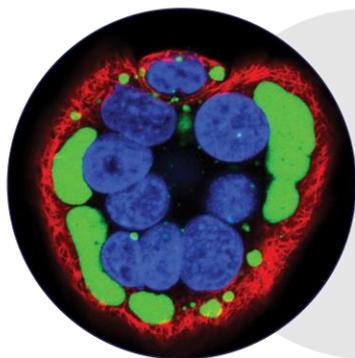


## GCRF Background and Strategy



**Professor Stuart Taberner**

Global Challenges Research Fund

29<sup>th</sup> September 2017

# Aims of the day – RCUK perspective

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- ❑ Share more information about the Hubs call and other ODA calls
- ❑ Engage in discussion around key issues and opportunities
- ❑ Provide some real life examples and share best practice and lessons learned
- ❑ Help applicants/teams submit the best possible proposals

Stuart Taberner

*Director of International and Interdisciplinary Research*

Mark Claydon-Smith

*Associate Director for International Development*

Alexandra Spittle  
*Secretary, Strategic  
Advisory Group*

Claire Edwards  
*ODA Evaluation*

Eloise Meller  
*Global Engagement  
Manager*

Rebecca Tanner  
*ODA Data and Analysis*

Robert Felstead  
*Senior Policy Manager*

Sian Rowland  
*Senior Policy Manager*

Ryan Warren  
*Support Officer*

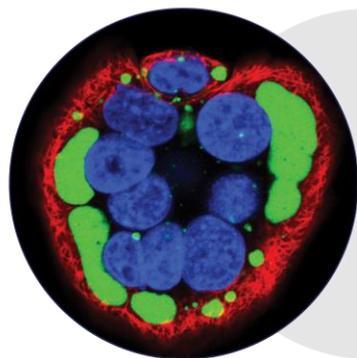
Wendy Bown  
*Support Officer*

# Local GCRF successes

- ❑ GCRF: DAMS 2.0: Design and assessment of **resilient and sustainable interventions** in water-energy-food-environment Mega-Systems (*David Hulme, University of Manchester*)
- ❑ GCRF: **One Health Regional Network** for the Horn of Africa (HORN) (*Matthew Baylis, University of Liverpool*)
- ❑ GCRF Partnership for **Increasing the Impact of Vector Control** (PIIVeC) (*Hilary Ranson, Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine*)
- ❑ **Empowering Language Teachers** and Learners in Uzbekistan: Opening Doors through Formal English Reading and Writing Development (*Diana Mazgutova, Lancaster University*)
- ❑ **Dietary transitions in African cities**: leveraging evidence for interventions and policy to prevent diet-related non-communicable diseases (NCDs) (*Michelle Holdsworth, University of Sheffield*)
- ❑ BBSome trafficking: investigating a novel pathway associated with **virulence in Leishmania** (*Helen Price, Keele University*)
- ❑ A Collaborative Multi-agency Platform for **Building Resilient Communities** (*Terrence Fernando, University of Salford*)



# Global Challenges Research Fund



How did we get here?

# Research for Development: The UK Funding Landscape

# Global Context: UN Sustainable Development Goals



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



# UK Funding for Research for Development

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- ❑ Department for International Development (DfID) (£1.5bn)
- ❑ Newton Fund (£735m UK contribution; partner countries providing matched resources within the fund)
- ❑ The Global Challenges Research Fund GCRF (£1.5bn)
- ❑ Ross Fund (£1bn focused on health)
- ❑ Fleming Fund (£195 million focused on antimicrobial resistance)

The Newton Fund uses research and innovation partnerships to **promote economic development and social welfare of partner countries**. It does this through collaboration with partner countries and working with 15 UK delivery partners.

The Newton Fund is also part of the UK's official development assistance (ODA).

The Newton Fund was launched in 2014 and now has a total UK investment of £735 million to 2021, with partner countries providing matched resources within the fund.

# Newton Fund versus GCRF

Same primary and secondary objectives:

- to **promote economic development and social welfare** of developing countries
- to contribute to the continued **strength of the UK's research and innovation base** and our wider prosperity and global influence

Newton Fund	GCRF
Requires partnership with one of 16 specific partner countries, identified as emerging knowledge economies	Allows proposals addressing more widespread issues rather than requiring partnership with a specific country
Partner countries provide match funding for every programme	Match funding not required
Primarily focused on Middle Income Countries on the OECD DAC list	Covers any countries included on the OECD DAC list

# Global Challenges Research Fund

# Background to GCRF

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

2015 Government Spending Review Outcomes

- ❑ Address global challenges through disciplinary and interdisciplinary research
- ❑ Strengthening capability for research and innovation, within developing countries and the UK
- ❑ Agile response to emergencies and opportunities

# GCRF Delivery Partners



Cyngor Cyllido Addysg  
Uwch Cymru  
Higher Education Funding  
Council for Wales

hefcw

THE  
ROYAL  
SOCIETY



EPSRC

Engineering and Physical Sciences  
Research Council





## ***Equitable access to sustainable development***

to create new knowledge and drive innovation that helps to ensure that everyone across the globe can prosper through access to health, food, water, education, energy etc.

## ***Sustainable economies and societies***

to identify new responses to the challenges arising from changes in population, technology, consumption and pressure on the environment

## ***Human rights, good governance and social justice***

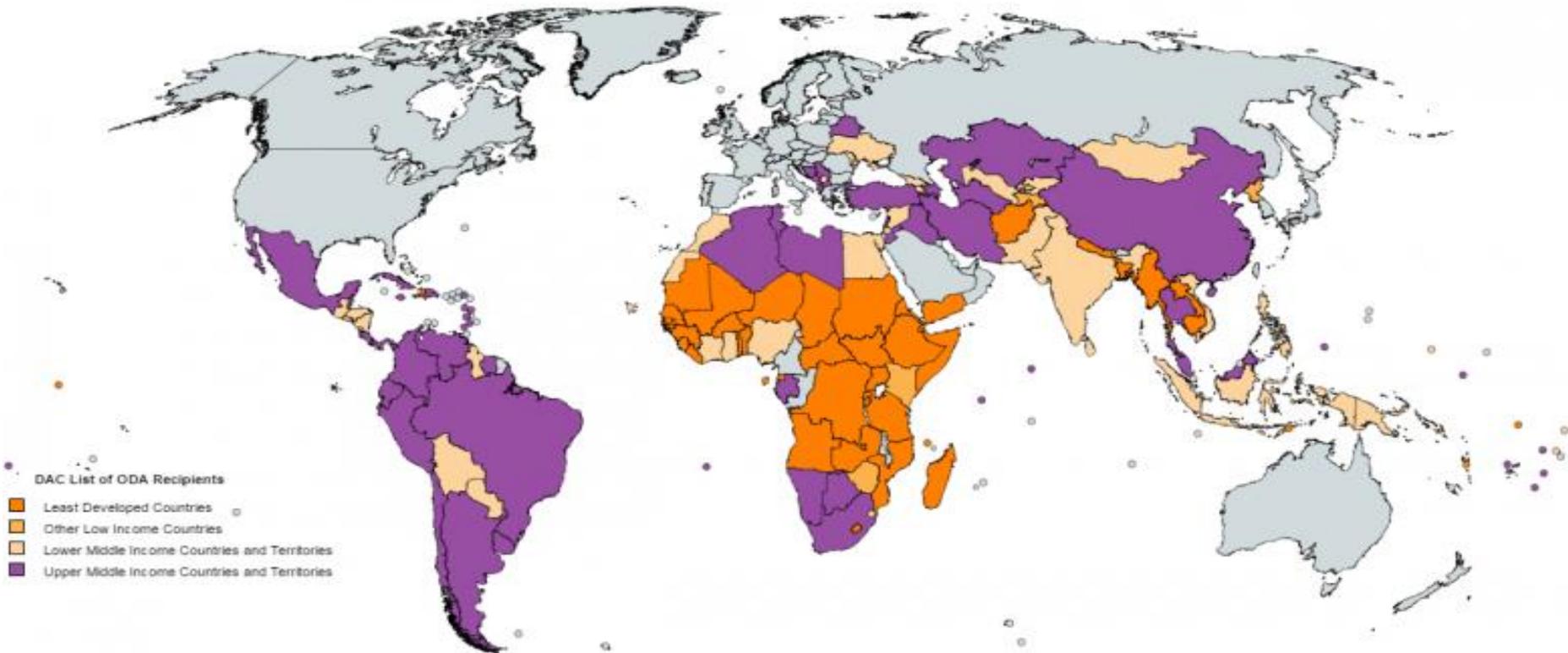
to understand how to strengthen the institutions that underpin peaceful societies, good governance, respect for human rights and the rule of law.

# GCRF: Key Criteria

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- ✓ **Research Excellence**  
new approaches not constrained by traditional methodologies or disciplinary silos
- ✓ **Official Development Assistance (ODA) compliance**  
OECD guidelines
- ✓ **Equitable Partnerships and Building Capacity**  
strong and enduring partnerships between UK and developing-country researchers to enhance the research and innovation capacity of both
- ✓ **Impact: Problem and Solution Focused**  
substantial impact on improved social welfare, economic development, and environmental sustainability

# ODA Compliance OECD DAC Country List



# Key Principles

# Challenge and impact focus

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- Generate excellent and novel research
- Translate research into measurable development impacts
- Deliver a broad range of scalable impacts
- A sustainable programme with a legacy beyond the initial investment

# Interdisciplinary research excellence

- Excellent research capacity
- Capacity to think across, between, within SDGs
- Assemble new knowledge and insights across different research communities
- Strategically build on previous investments



Image: British Academies

# Interdisciplinary working

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GCRF and particularly the Collective Fund is an excellent opportunity.

Creating a successful partnership involves:

- Identifying the right mix of disciplines
- Co-creation of a common vision and goals
- Defining a joint approach
- Positive leadership
- Identifying a method for dealing with disagreements/conflicts

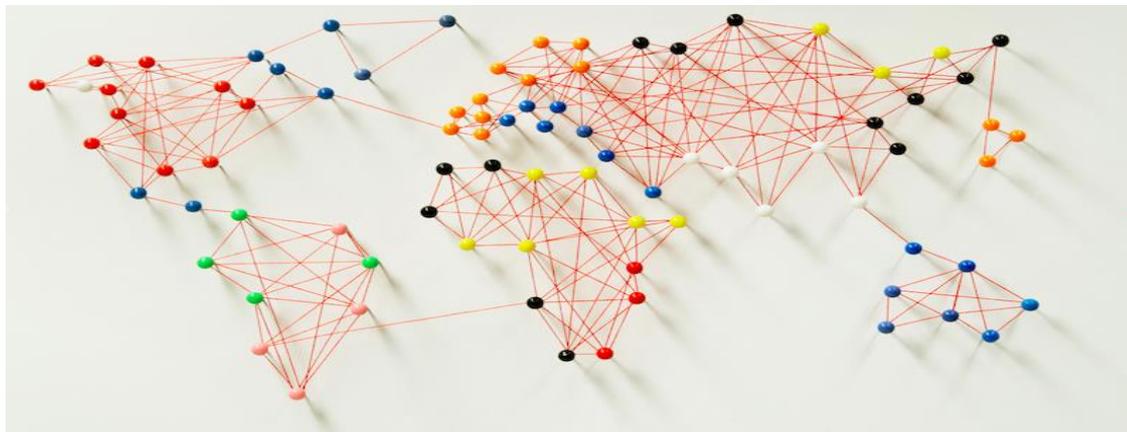
Finding and Building Effective Partnerships:

[www.ukcds.org/resources](http://www.ukcds.org/resources)

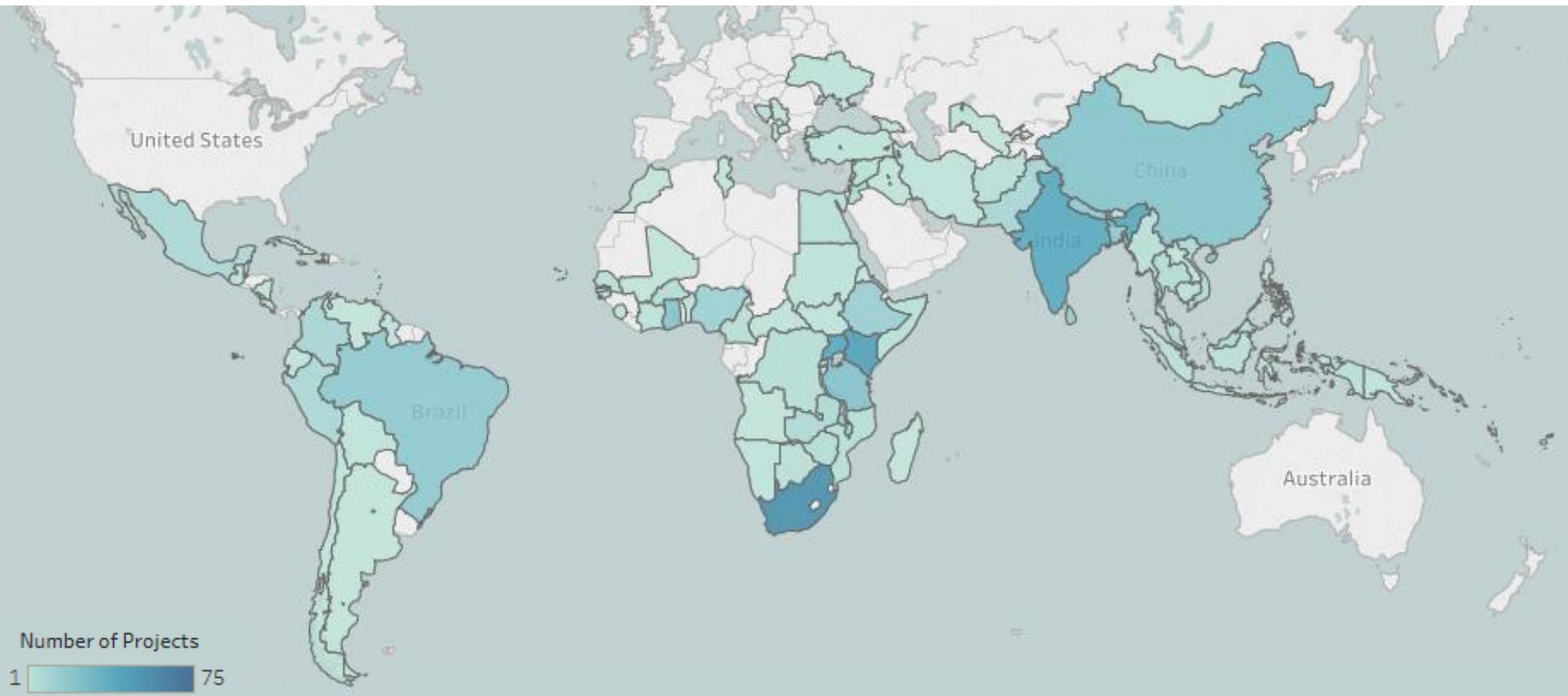
<http://pei.exchange>

# Global partnerships

- Co-development with international partners
- Substantial, genuine and meaningful collaboration/engagement
- Full consideration of relevant developing country context



# RCUK GCRF Year 1 Funded Projects: Countries of Focus



Equitable partnerships with developing-country researchers to:

- Identify research gaps and needs
- Co-create research questions and research outcomes
- Test solutions to actual problems
- Build research capacity in the UK and developing countries to do research for development



# GCRF: Impact through partnership with non-Research Organisations

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Working with NGOs, CSOs, governmental agencies, multinational bodies, and others to:

- Identify development needs
- Test potential – and potential limitations – of research outcomes on real-world problems
- Co-design real-world implementation of solutions
- Input into policy

# Organisation and leadership

- Shared values and goals
- Strong research and operational leadership
- Appropriate and effective monitoring and evaluation
- Ability to learn and adapt

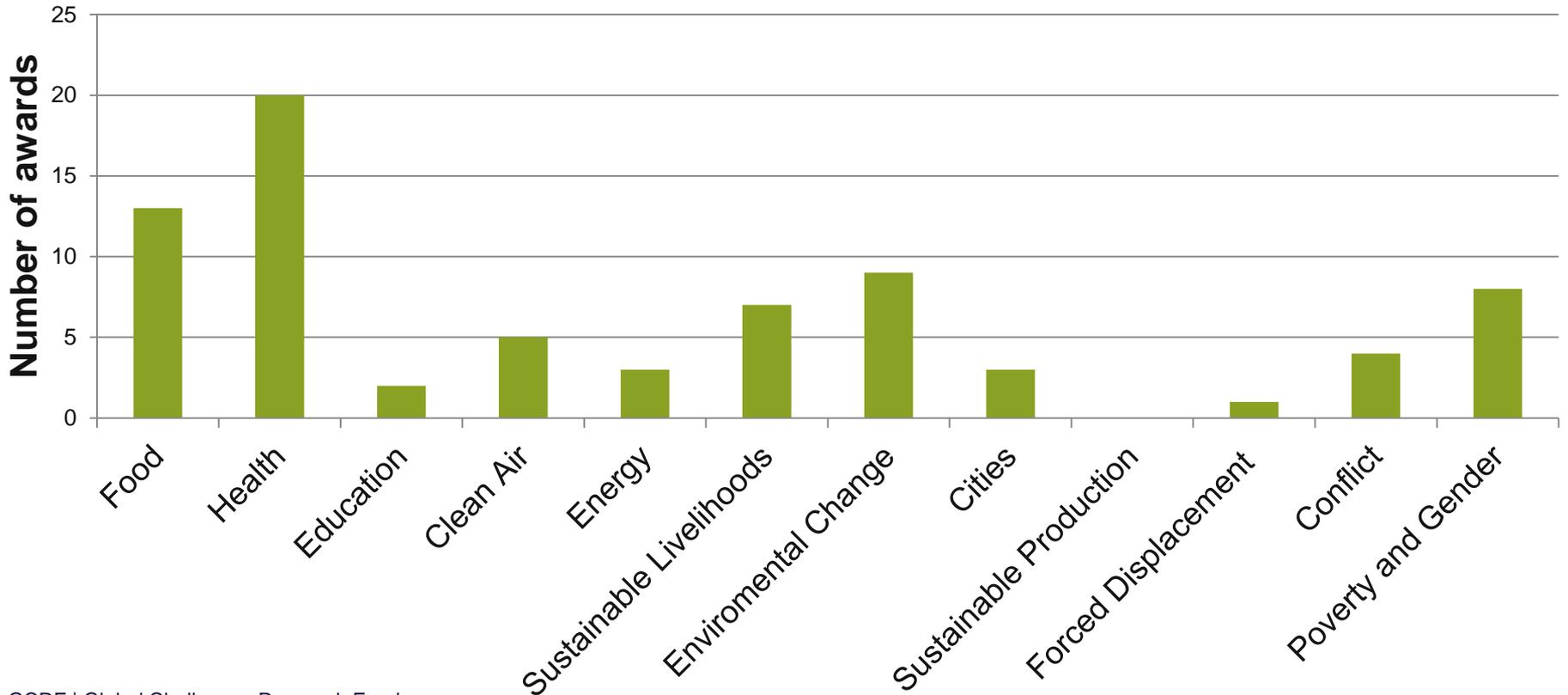


# Collective Fund: Growing Research Capacity and Capability

## **37 strategic programmes to grow research capability to meet the challenges faced by developing countries:**

- ❑ Strengthen research capacity and capability, building skills across career stages in both the UK and developing countries.
- ❑ Build strong and enduring relationships between UK research organisations and research organisations and other partners in developing countries.
- ❑ Deliver research outcomes with the potential for significant impact on the welfare and economic development of developing countries.
- ❑ Increase the engagement of the UK research community with international development challenges.

## Growing capability to meet the needs of developing countries Alignment with GCRF Strategic themes





Growing research capability to  
meet the challenges faced by  
developing countries

July 2017