



## University of Sheffield: University of Ghana Pump-Priming Awards

### 1. Overview

The University of Sheffield and University of Ghana recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding with a view to developing a portfolio of collaborative research.

These awards are intended to initiate collaborations between research groups at the two universities with a view to building further on these in the future. Eligible costs/activities include workshops, network building, symposia, sandpits, travel, accommodation, subsistence and visa costs linked to these.

To apply for an award please work with an academic partner at the University of Sheffield to complete the [online google form here](#). Note that the strongest applications will be developed in partnership between staff at the two Universities but all applications must be submitted by a Sheffield Principal Investigator (PI).

### 2. Deadlines

In the first instance there will be two application deadlines to this scheme at 6 month intervals. These are as follows:

- 4pm GMT on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2019
- 4pm GMT on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2019

### 3. Information required in the form

- Applicant details
- Project details
- Project partners
- Project description
- Anticipated project start/end date
- Project partner details
- Official Development Assistance (ODA) compliance including outputs and impacts
- Legacy
- Outline of plans for attaining external funding
- Breakdown of costs

### 4. Scheme specific guidance

- A requirement of this funding is that all projects must be ODA compliant meaning that they must address an evidenced development need in Ghana and/or the wider West African region. Any benefits to non-DAC list partners, such as the UK, can only be secondary.
- Individuals at both University of Ghana and University of Sheffield may submit only one (1) application as PI per round.
- Sheffield PIs must hold one of the following positions at the University of Sheffield: (i) a permanent post (ii) be a fixed term employee whose contract extends to or beyond the duration of the proposed research project (iii) an Honorary or Emeritus position.

- The purpose of this grant is to provide awards to support the development of partnerships between University of Sheffield and University of Ghana researchers by funding travel, networking, meetings and research projects that will lead to further applications to external funding.
- Individual awards are for a maximum of £7,000.
- PROJECT SPEND MUST BE COMPLETE BY WITHIN 6 MONTHS OF THE AWARD BEING MADE.
- THE SHEFFIELD PI MUST HAVE COMPLETED A UNIVERSITY OF SHEFFIELD COSTING AND PROVIDE A PROJECT NUMBER PRIOR TO SUBMISSION.
- Costing status must be at COSTING APPROVED on the University of Sheffield system by the relevant deadline for applications. Any applications without approved costs will be deemed ineligible for assessment.
- In completing your costing please ensure you choose Funder = Research England and Programme = QR GCRF - University of Ghana Pump Priming Awards Round 1
- Research Services will undertake due diligence on any partners other than The University of Ghana. This will be done at the point of making an award. Applicants need not advise us regarding prospective partners other than via this form.

## 5. Assessment Criteria

- Quality of research: How innovative and well-planned is the research component of the proposal? Are interdisciplinary approaches appropriately included? How far will the planned activities advance it to a stage where it could realistically be externally funded?
- Strength & potential of partnerships: How strong are the existing connections between the partners involved in this application - in particular the relevant research groups at the University of Sheffield and the University of Ghana? How far will the planned activities strengthen them, and how useful will they be in developing future bids?
- In-country need & potential for impact: How well have the applicants demonstrated that the challenge which the research addresses is a priority for Ghana and/or other DAC-list countries, and how much impact will the research have on this if funded?
- Fit with strategic priorities (internal + external) - How well does the research align with UN-Strategic Development Goals (SDGs) /Global Challenge Research Fund (GCRF) priority challenge areas faced by Ghana and/or other DAC-list countries, and how well does it fit with the strategic priorities of the relevant University/faculty/department/research clusters?
- Plans for external funding - How ambitious and realistic do the stated plans for external funding seem? How appropriate are these sources of funding for ODA-compliant research?
- Value for money of proposed activities - Are the resources asked for realistic in terms of the work proposed and the duration of the project? Does the project represent a good use of this money?

## 6. Eligible costs

- Directly Incurred (DI) staff costs e.g. PDRA, administrative support.
- DI staff costs in any organisation and any country (whether DAC-list or not) are eligible but these will need to be justified in the relevant section to demonstrate how they are ODA-compliant.
- Travel, accommodation and subsistence.
- Partner hosting within UK
- Visa costs

- Events
- Other costs focused on collaboration / network building
- Subcontractors' VAT and/or other in-country taxes
- **IMPORTANT: WHILE THE ABOVE CONSTITUTE THE ELIGIBLE COSTS PLEASE ALSO INCLUDE DETAILS OF DIRECTLY ALLOCATED (DA) STAFF ON THE COSTING TOOL (e.g. PI, CI and other DA time spend delivering the activity).**

#### **7. Assessment**

- Applications will be submitted (via submission of the Google form) to Research Services at the University of Sheffield. Applications will then be shared with the Office of Research and Innovation and Development (ORID) at the University of Ghana
- Funding decisions will be made by the University of Sheffield's GCRF Strategy Coordination Group working in consultation with ORID.
- Funding decision will be made with reference to the assessment criteria in section 5 above.

#### **8. Further Information**

Please contact Sarah Beedham ([s.beedham@sheffield.ac.uk](mailto:s.beedham@sheffield.ac.uk) (+44 114 2227448) for further information on the awards.