

## International Development (GCRF) NGO Data Fund

A University of Sussex ESRC IAA additional funding opportunity

### Objectives

The Economic and Social Research (ESRC) Impact Acceleration Account (IAA) at the University of Sussex has been awarded an additional fund (£30,000) from the ESRC, in alignment with their Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF) support, for the purpose of exploring opportunities for data reuse within Non-governmental Organisations (NGOs) and implementation agencies that operate in an [Official Development Assistance \(ODA\) context](#).

Potentially valuable data on developing countries are held by NGOs, though much of it is currently unavailable or unknown to researchers. Challenges around making use of this data include lack of awareness of its existence, lack of confidence in its quality and provenance, and lack of understanding around its appropriateness for use in different contexts.

This IAA additional funding stream enables existing partnerships or the development of new partnerships with NGOs operating in an ODA context to discover the extent and quality of the data being held and what potential there is for developing further research projects or realising the impacts from this data that benefit low and middle income countries.

The scheme will support engagement that builds relationships with NGOs working in international development to explore the potential of secondary NGO data. Relationships built through this funding are anticipated to create the foundations for the development of strong collaborations with NGO and implementation agency partners. It will also support researchers seeking to increase the impact of NGO data through secondary data analysis. This could include exploratory work aiming to discover what data there is and what can be done with the data that is scientifically interesting and has the potential to create new knowledge and ultimately promote the economic development and welfare of developing countries.

Funding could be used for a range of activities, including but not limited to:

- *Meetings, visits or brief secondments (please note: we cannot buy out teaching) to develop relationships with new NGO partners, or further relationships with existing NGO partners, to establish the potential for impact outcomes through analysis of any existing secondary data*
- *Transport or accommodation to visit an NGO partner, e.g. to explore of the extent and quality of data being held by an NGO, or any administrative aspects necessary in accessing data*
- *Other activities involved in secondary data analysis for impact*

We expect submissions will not to exceed **£7,500**. All activities will need to be completed and funds spent **by 31 March 2019**.

### Review Procedure

Applications are invited on an open call basis and will be reviewed by the IAA Academic Director, Professor Paul Nightingale as well as the Head of Research Quality & Impact and a Sussex Sustainability Research Programme (SSRP) member.

### Review Criteria

- Activities are compliant to ODA requirements. Please check [here](#) to see if the country is on the DAC List of ODA Recipients.
- Evidence of need by non-academic partners (evidenced by letter, invitation etc). The NGO partner must be operating in an ODA country. Please note: if you are proposing to work with Oxfam, please speak with the IAA Project Manager (Megan McMichael) in advance.
- Evidence of how the proposed activity fits within a planned, sustained and strategic approach to engagement.
- Demonstration of additionality (that no other sources of funding are available).
- Underlying social research falls within the [ESRC remit](#)
- Approval of Director of Research and Knowledge Exchange

### Eligibility

- Those contracted to undertake research at the University of Sussex are eligible to apply; however, the funding is not available to applicants who are students or teaching fellows.
- No primary data will be eligible under this funding.
- The IAA is not able to buy out teaching time.

### Reporting requirements

Successful applicants will be expected to submit a brief report regarding activities, outputs & outcomes on completion.

### Further information

If you would like to discuss your application please contact:

- Paul Nightingale, Academic Director of the IAA, [p.nightingale@sussex.ac.uk](mailto:p.nightingale@sussex.ac.uk) or
- Megan McMichael, ESRC IAA Project Manager, [m.mcmichael@sussex.ac.uk](mailto:m.mcmichael@sussex.ac.uk), x8178

For further information on GCRF and ODA, please see

<http://www.sussex.ac.uk/staff/research/development/funding/opportunities/gcrf>.