

RESEARCH STRATEGY 2008 - 2013

IMPLEMENTATION TIMETABLE; Updated April 2009

This implementation timetable gives external stakeholders information about the likely content and timing of future research competitions and calls for proposals. It covers the research that DFID manages directly and also shows where new funding to joint and multilateral research programmes – for instance, to the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research or one of the UK research councils – is likely to result in research funding opportunities that research suppliers can pursue directly.

In addition, the timetable shows when DFID is likely to develop (i.e. scope) detailed research specifications. This activity has been included because it **may** generate requirements for external consultancy support, which DFID would advertise (the main determinant being the amount of funding involved). Note that research which is scoped in a particular area **will not necessarily** result in a discrete research programme on this topic: DFID may choose instead to bring together research questions on related topics and address the links and inter-dependences among them.

The implementation timetable addresses new research initiatives developed in line with the strategy; so does not capture details of DFID's on-going research programmes, where contracts or memoranda of understanding are already in place. Details of these on-going programmes are available at www.dfid.gov.uk and at DFID's research portal www.Research4Development.info.

The timetable below covers the current financial year and next (i.e. April 2009 to March 2010 and April 2010 to March 2011). For 2009/10 it indicates the quarter (i.e. three month period) in which activities are scheduled to take place. The timetable will be updated periodically, usually every quarter. **It is not a detailed work plan and entries may be subject to change.**

Research Theme: Growth

Topic and relevant Research Strategy commitment	Year 2: April 2009–March 2010		Year 3: April 2010–March 2011	
	Specifications for new research programmes are developed (i.e. scoped) both in terms of content and likely funding mechanism ¹	Research funding	Specifications for new research programmes are developed (i.e. scoped) both in terms of content and likely funding mechanism	Research funding
International Growth Centre <i>This was launched in December 2008.</i>		International Growth Centre advertises research contracts periodically		
Infrastructure and growth <i>“One of the biggest barriers to growth in DFID’s priority countries is poor infrastructure...”</i> See Research Strategy Page 22 (Bookmark 2)	April – September: Scope research on infrastructure investment and growth	Subject to approval, tenders associated with infrastructure and growth programmes Africa Community Access Programme (AFCAP): specific research competitions held periodically		

¹ Scoping research programmes may require external consultancy inputs, particularly for larger programmes. Advertisements will appear at www.dfid.gov.uk, on www.Research4Development.info and where appropriate, the Official Journal of the European Union.

<p>Political processes and growth (see also natural resources governance and growth)</p> <p><i>“Through our work on institutions and growth that benefits poor people...”</i></p> <p>See Research Strategy Page 22 (Bookmark 3)</p>	<p>January – March: Exercise to take stock of the outcome of existing research on governance, effective political institutions and growth</p>			
<p>Social processes and growth</p> <p><i>“Growth is a necessary but not a sufficient means for tackling poverty...”</i></p> <p>See Research Strategy Page 22 (Bookmark 4)</p>	<p>April - December: scope research on social inclusion and growth.</p>	<p>Subject to approval, invitations for research on social processes, inclusion and growth during 2009–10</p>		
<p>Education and growth</p> <p><i>“DFID manages three major education research programmes...”</i></p> <p>See Research Strategy Page 23 (Bookmark 5)</p>	<p>April – July: scope research on post-primary education, skills and the world of work</p>	<p>Subject to approval, invitations for research on education, skills and the world of work during 2009-10</p>		

Research Theme: Sustainable Agriculture

Topic and relevant Research Strategy commitment	Year 2: April 2009–March 2010		Year 3: April 2010–March 2011	
	Specifications for new research programmes are developed (i.e. scoped) both in terms of content and likely funding mechanism	Research funding	Specifications for new research programmes are developed (i.e. scoped) both in terms of content and likely funding mechanism	Research funding
<p>New agricultural technologies</p> <p><i>“We will invest in research to develop food that is more nutritious, produces larger crop yields and is resistant to climate variations and pests...”</i></p> <p>See Research Strategy Page 24 (Bookmark 6)</p>	<p>Scoping for five year programme of support to international agricultural research (non Consultative Group centres)</p> <p>By March 2010 GALVmed partnership between Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, DFID, Civil society and the Pharmaceutical industry is a model for further research initiatives.</p>	<p>Subject to approval, five-year core funding agreements made with up to eight International Agricultural Research organisations (non Consultative Group centres) total annual support rising to £5m by 2012</p> <p>By June 2009 African regional and sub-regional agricultural research organisations (FARA, ASARECA, CORAF) will have received funds channelled through linked multi-donor Trust Funds as part of five year agriculture productivity programmes.</p>	<p>CGIAR will establish one Mega-programme under its “Food for People” strategic objective addressing agricultural productivity of major staple crops.</p> <p>Scope the broader application of Advanced Market Commitments for the agricultural sector</p> <p>Support the African Enterprise Challenge fund to develop a matching fund window that shares the cost of bringing research into use and investing in new agricultural technology</p> <p>Regional agricultural research programme in South Asia operational</p>	<p>A 5 year regional research programme for the multi-country agriculture productivity programme (MAPP) in Southern Africa designed and approved by June 2010.</p>

<p>High value agriculture</p> <p><i>“New research will explore how to improve labour productivity...”</i></p> <p>See Research Strategy Page 24 (Bookmark 7)</p>		<p>This will be included as core element of our support to the CGIAR, the other international research centres and the regional and sub-regional research organisations, all of which specifically address high value agriculture.</p>	<p>This will be included as a key topic within the regional agricultural research programmes and international agricultural research beyond the Consultative Group centres</p>	
<p>Rural economies</p> <p><i>“We will get a better understanding of how the rural farm and non-farm economies interact...”</i></p> <p>See Research Strategy Page 24 (Bookmark 8)</p>	<p>This will be included as a key topic within scoping; support to international agricultural research beyond the Consultative Group system</p>	<p>Agriculture policy in Africa supported by a scaled up programme of high quality research in three pilot countries by 2010 through the Futures Agriculture Consortium. This programme will also direct policy research to support stronger markets and rural economic growth.</p>	<p>This will be included as a key topic within the regional agricultural research programmes and international agricultural research beyond the Consultative Group centres</p>	

<p>Risk, vulnerability and adaptation</p> <p><i>“We will keep our focus on protecting farming communities against short-term shocks such as drought, pests and diseases...”</i></p> <p>See Research Strategy Page 25 (Bookmark 9)</p>	<p>Push forward reforms of the CGIAR as a response to the food crisis to support creation of a coherent, effective efficient international agricultural research system capable of accelerating science outputs for poverty reduction, hunger, environment and policy.</p> <p>Scoping joint DFID-BBSRC research programme to address resilience of farming systems to drought and water scarcity</p> <p>Continued core support to AATF to develop and promote innovative applications of proprietary technology for use in smallholder farming systems</p> <p>Also set out under climate change theme:</p> <p>March: complete the design of Climate Change in Asia and Latin America adaptation programmes.</p> <p>September: complete the design of the Eco Systems and Services for Poverty Alleviation research programme with Economic and Social Research Council and Natural Environment Research Council</p>	<p>Subject to approval, possible invitations for research under an Eco System Services for Poverty Alleviation (ESPA) programme</p>		<p>Subject to approval, possible invitations for research under a Climate Change in Asia and Latin America adaptation programmes.</p>
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<p>Markets</p> <p><i>“We will fund research that will help give farmers (both men and women) a bigger share in food markets...”</i></p> <p>See Research Strategy Page 25 (Bookmark 10)</p>	<p>Agriculture policy in Africa supported by a scaled up programme of high quality research in three pilot countries by 2010 through the Futures Agriculture Consortium.</p> <p>This will be included as a key topic within three scoping exercises highlighted above -for the regional agricultural research programme in South Asia; support to international agricultural research beyond the Consultative Group system; and the southern African sub-regional research organisation</p>	<p>CGIAR will establish one Mega-programme under its “Policies for People” strategic objective addressing access functional markets</p>	<p>This will be included as a key topic within the regional agricultural research programmes and international agricultural research beyond the Consultative Group centres</p>	
<p>Managing renewable natural resources (RNR)</p> <p><i>“Renewable natural resources are undervalued and overused...”</i></p> <p>See Research Strategy Page 25 (Bookmark 11)</p>	<p>Subject to design appraisal and approval, possible invitations for research on links between renewable natural resources and growth linked to the ESPA</p>		<p>CGIAR will establish one Mega-programme under its “Environment for People” strategic objective addressing sustainable and productive use of RNR</p>	<p>Subject to design appraisal and approval, possible invitations for research on links between renewable natural resources and growth linked to the ESPA programme</p>

Research Theme: Climate Change

Topic and relevant Research Strategy commitment	Year 2: April 2009–March 2010		Year 3: April 2010–March 2011	
	Specifications for new research programmes are developed (i.e. scoped) both in terms of content and likely funding mechanisms	Research funding	Specifications for new research programmes are developed (i.e. scoped) both in terms of content and likely funding mechanisms	Research funding
Climate science, especially in Africa <i>“There is still only poor understanding of the impact of climate change on developing countries...”</i> See Research Strategy Page 26 (Bookmark 12)	June – September: scoping for programme to increase the capability to undertake and use climate science and scenario modelling	Subject to approval, possible invitations to tender under a new climate science programme		
Climate change in national and international policy <i>“There are already solutions for reducing carbon emissions and adapting to climate change...”</i> See Research Strategy Page 27 (Bookmark 13)	Complete the design of the International Climate Change Centre	Subject to approval, possible tenders for the International Climate Change Centre		

<p>Adaptation strategies</p> <p><i>“We will continue to prioritise research and programmes that help countries adapt to climate change...”</i></p> <p>See Research Strategy Page 27 (Bookmark 14)</p>	<p>March: complete the design of Climate Change in Asia and Latin America adaptation programmes</p> <p>September: complete the design of the Eco Systems and Services for Poverty Alleviation research programme with Economic and Social Research Council and Natural Environment Research Council</p>	<p>Subject to approval, possible invitations for research under an Eco System Services for Poverty Alleviation (ESPA) programme</p>		<p>Subject to approval, possible invitations for research under a Climate Change in Asia and Latin America adaptation programmes.</p>
<p>Mitigation and low carbon growth</p> <p><i>“Strategies to reduce the impact of climate change (mitigation strategies) will be more cost effective if countries adopt them sooner rather than later...”</i></p> <p>See Research Strategy Page 28 (Bookmark 15)</p>	<p>August – October: Scope research on the barriers to climate change technology development and transfer</p>	<p>Subject to approval, possible invitations for research under an new barriers to technology development and transfer programme</p>		

Research Theme: Health

Topic and relevant Research Strategy commitment	Year 2: April 2009–March 2010		Year 3: April 2010–March 2011	
	Specifications for new research programmes are developed (i.e. scoped) both in terms of content and likely funding mechanisms	Research funding	Specifications for new research programmes are developed (i.e. scoped) both in terms of content and likely funding mechanisms	Research funding
<p>Making health programmes more effective</p> <p><i>“Research has already shown us what essential health programmes developing countries need...”</i></p> <p>See Research Strategy Page 29 (Bookmark 16)</p>	<p>April- July: scope health research programmes to be taken forward through new Research Programme Consortium model</p>	<p>July – September: subject to approval advertise competition for new Research Programme Consortia</p> <p>Subject to approval, UK Medical Research Council periodically invites research proposals funded by the DFID/MRC Concordat</p>		<p>July – September: advertise competitions for new Research Programme Consortia</p> <p>Subject to approval, UK Medical Research Council periodically invites research proposals funded by the DFID/MRC Concordat</p>
<p>Health systems</p> <p><i>“Research into health systems has been a neglected area...”</i></p> <p>See Research Strategy Page 30 (Bookmark 17)</p>	<p>This topic will be central to the work highlighted above, namely:</p> <p>health programmes to be taken forward through the new Research Programme Consortia model and other investments</p>	<p>Health Research Capacity Strengthening Programme in Kenya and Malawi invites research and research training proposals periodically</p>		<p>Health Research Capacity Strengthening Programme in Kenya and Malawi invites research and research training proposals periodically</p>

<p>Developing new drugs and vaccines and getting them to poor people</p> <p><i>“In the past, we have focused support to public/private Product Development Partnerships (PDPs) on vaccines and microbicides 3 for HIV and AIDS and drugs for malaria and TB...”</i></p> <p>See Research Strategy Page 30 (Bookmark 18)</p>		<p>April – September: competition for investment in new Product Development Partnerships</p>		
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Research Theme: Governance in challenging environments

Topic and relevant Research Strategy commitment	Year 2: April 2009–March 2010		Year 3: April 2010–March 2011	
	Specifications for new research programmes are developed (i.e. scoped) both in terms of content and likely funding mechanism	Research funding	Specifications for new research programmes are developed (i.e. scoped) both in terms of content and likely funding mechanism	Research funding
<p>Conflict, state fragility and social cohesion</p> <p><i>“DFID has carried out research into conflict, recovery from conflict, inequality, human security and ethnicity...”</i></p> <p>See Research Strategy Page 31 (Bookmark 19)</p>	<p>January – March: scope new research on governance in fragile and post conflict environments</p> <p>PCN agreed for governance capacity building to go to Expressions of interest by September full tenders to be submitted by January</p>			<p>Subject to approval, possible invitations for research</p>
<p>Social exclusion, inequality and poverty reduction</p> <p><i>“The relationship between social exclusion, inequality and growth has an important effect on development...”</i></p> <p>See Research Strategy Page 32 (Bookmark 20)</p>	<p>Radicalisation scoping study tender approved by May 2009; Invitations for Expressions of interest by October 2009</p>			

<p>Strong and effective states</p> <p><i>“Our policy research across countries will examine different forms of state responsibility...”</i></p> <p>See Research Strategy Page 33 (Bookmark 21)</p>	<p>Expressions of interest for new RPC on State-Building Expression of Interest June/July; full proposals invited in October</p> <p>Building Capacity for Governance Research in Africa. Expressions of interest to be invited April/May 2009; full proposals by October 2009</p>	<p>October – December: design Africa governance research capacity development programme with other international research funders</p>		<p>Subject to approval, possible invitations for research and capacity development</p>
<p>Hardest to reach MDGs</p> <p><i>“Slow progress in the MDGs for water, sanitation, education and hunger is closely related to failure to recognise and address challenges with political processes...”</i></p> <p>See Research Strategy Page 33 (Bookmark 22)</p>	<p>May-June: Design of new Sanitation and Health Research Programme (SHRP) completed</p>	<p>Subject to approval, advertise competition for new Sanitation and Health Research Programme (SHRP) Research Programme Consortia</p>		
<p>Migration</p> <p><i>“Developed countries tend to be concerned about illegal or irregular migration...”</i></p> <p>See Research Strategy Page 33 (Bookmark 23)</p>	<p>Migration scoping study completed on international and regional migration, including the role of the diaspora. Expressions of interest to be invited April/may 2009; full proposals to be submitted October 2009</p>			

Research Theme: Future challenges and opportunities

Topic and relevant Research Strategy commitment	Year 2: April 2009–March 2010		Year 3: April 2010–March 2011	
	Specifications for new research programmes are developed (i.e. scoped) both in terms of content and likely funding mechanism	Research funding	Specifications for new research programmes are developed (i.e. scoped) both in terms of content and likely funding mechanism	Research funding
Future of aid and beyond <i>“Research must now look beyond the MDGs...”</i> See Research Strategy Page 34 (Bookmark 24)	All thematic teams to scope research on strategic questions affecting the future of international development		New high risk, small and flexible research programmes commissioned to examine emerging ideas and themes	DFID-supported International Initiative on Impact Evaluation (3IE) periodically invite proposals for Impact Evaluation
New and emerging technologies <i>“New and emerging cutting-edge technologies are being developed for industrialised markets...”</i> See Research Strategy Page 35 (Bookmark 25)	Head of Research to lead and Senior Research Fellow to scope research on the potential of science and technology to achieve the MDGs and the barriers to technology transfer			New funding mechanism likely to be announced