

# RESEARCH STRATEGY 2008 - 2013

## IMPLEMENTATION TIMETABLE: Updated April 2010

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](http://www.dfid.gov.uk) and at DFID's research portal [www.Research4Development.info](http://www.Research4Development.info).

The timetable below covers the current financial year and next (i.e. April 2010 to March 2011 and April 2011 to March 2012). The timetable will be updated regularly. **It is not a detailed work plan and entries may be subject to change.**

## Research Theme: Growth

| Topic and relevant Research Strategy commitment  | Year 3<br>April 2010–March 2011   |   | Year 4<br>April 2011–March 2012  |   |
|--|---|---|--|---|
|  | Specifications for new research programmes are developed (i.e. scoped) both in terms of content and likely funding mechanism <sup>1</sup>   | Research funding  | Specifications for new research programmes are developed (i.e. scoped) both in terms of content and likely funding mechanism | Research funding  |
| <p>Economic Growth</p> <p><i>“We want to put a debate about economic growth at the heart of international development. We believe that a much greater effort is needed. Our work will now focus on making sure that country growth strategies benefit from the resources of the international research community in the long term”</i></p> | <p>April – June: Scope new research on agriculture/growth, financial sector development/growth and jobs/growth.</p> <p>April – Sept: Scope new research on private sector development/growth, technology diffusion/growth and social protection/growth.</p> | <p>Subject to approval, tenders for programmes in these areas to follow on from scoping work.</p> | <p>Inception phases of all six areas to be complete by March 2012 (September 2011 for the first 3 areas)</p>                 | <p>Decisions to be made by March 2012 on continuation of funding beyond the inception phase in all six areas.</p> |

<sup>1</sup> Scoping research programmes may require external consultancy inputs, particularly for larger programmes. Advertisements will appear at [www.dfid.gov.uk](http://www.dfid.gov.uk), on [www.Research4Development.info](http://www.Research4Development.info) and where appropriate, the Official Journal of the European Union.

|   |   |  |   |   |
|---|---|--|---|---|
| <p>International Growth Centre (IGC)</p> <p><i>This was launched in December 2008</i></p>   | <p>Calls for research proposals due in May and September 2010. Proposals to cover the 10 themes of IGC work, macroeconomics, trade, firm capabilities, state capabilities, governance accountability &amp; political economy, finance, agriculture, climate change, infrastructure and urbanisation, human capital.</p> | <p>Funding is available. Anticipated to be worth £2.7m</p>   | <p>Calls for proposals are anticipated but too early to provide specific details regarding timing</p> |   |
| <p>Infrastructure and growth</p> <p><i>“One of the biggest barriers to growth in DFID’s priority countries is poor infrastructure...”</i></p> <p>See Research Strategy Page 22 (Bookmark 2)</p>   |   | <p>Africa Community Access Programme (AFCAP): specific research competitions held periodically</p> |   | <p>Africa Community Access Programme (AFCAP): specific research competitions held periodically</p>  |
| <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><a href="#">See Research Strategy</a> Page 22 (Bookmark 3)</p> | <p>May/June: Selection of Tax Research Programme Consortium.</p>  | <p>July – March 2011: Inception phase of Tax Research Programme Consortium</p>                     | <p>.</p>  | <p>June 2011: Tax Research Programme Consortium inception phase to be completed and decision to be made on remaining four years of the contract</p> |
| <p>Social processes and growth</p> <p><i>“Growth is a necessary but not a sufficient means for tackling poverty...”</i></p> <p><a href="#">See Research Strategy</a> Page 22 (Bookmark 4)</p>   | <p>See social protection and Growth (line 1 above)</p>  | <p>See social protection and Growth (line 1 above)</p>   | <p>See social protection and Growth (line 1 above)</p>  |   |

|   |  |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|--|
| <p>Education and growth</p> <p><i>“DFID manages three major education research programmes...”</i></p> <p><a href="#">See Research Strategy</a> Page 23 (Bookmark 5)</p> | <p>See Jobs/Skills and Growth (line 1 above)</p> | <p>See Jobs/Skills and Growth (line 1 above)</p> | <p>See Jobs/Skills and Growth (line 1 above)</p> | <p>See Jobs/Skills and Growth (line 1 above)</p> |
|---|--|--|--|--|

## Research Theme: Sustainable Agriculture

| Topic and relevant Research Strategy commitment  | Year 3<br>April 2010–April 2011   |  | Year 4:<br>April 2011–March 2012   |                  |
|--|---|--|--|------------------|
|  | 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><a href="#">See Research Strategy</a> Page 24 (Bookmark 6)</p> | <p>CGIAR will design and implement at least two Mega-programme by March 2011; the System-wide gender platform will be designed and established by March 2011.</p> <p>New programme of advanced research with BBSRC designed and funded by March 2011; looking at specific priority crops of relevance to poor people.</p> | <p>A 5 year regional research programme under a new regional institution, CCARDESA, in Southern Africa designed and approved by December 2010.</p> <p>African Enterprise Challenge Fund’s Research Into Business window - first challenge fund launched and open until May 17<sup>th</sup>. Virtual Market Place. This is a web based portal where research institutions can showcase technologies that are ready for uptake by the private sector. Private sector can use the VMP to access ideas and information about profitable technologies available to African Agriculture.</p> | <p>Regional agricultural research programme in South Asia operational.</p>   |                  |

|   |   |   |  |  |
|---|---|---|--|--|
| <p>High value agriculture</p> <p><i>“New research will explore how to improve labour productivity...”</i></p> <p><a href="#">See Research Strategy</a> Page 24 (Bookmark 7)</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><a href="#">See Research Strategy</a> Page 24 (Bookmark 8)</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>Within the CGIAR, the system-wide platform on gender will also be fast tracked based on the results of a scoping study on gender across the CGIAR.</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><a href="#">See Research Strategy</a> Page 25 (Bookmark 9)</p> | <p>This will be included as a key topic within support to the Futures Agriculture Consortium.</p> <p>Through the Systematic Review process, we will identify and design policy research programmes in important priority areas of agricultural knowledge (climate change and agriculture, agricultural growth, zoonoses).</p> |   |  |  |
| <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><a href="#">See Research Strategy</a> Page 25 (Bookmark 10)</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><a href="#">See Research Strategy</a> Page 25 (Bookmark 11)</p> | <p>CGIAR will fast track the establishment of three Mega-programmes: (1) Sustainable systems for the poor and vulnerable (based on agro-ecoregional approach); (2) Rice productions systems for the poor (as a probable component of the thematic area sustainable intensification of staple crops); and (3) Climate change and agriculture (the current Challenge Programme will be modified and turned into a Mega Programme).</p> |  |  |  |
|---|--|--|--|--|

## Research Theme: Climate Change

| Topic and relevant Research Strategy commitment  | Year 3:<br>April 2010–March 2011  |  | Year 4:<br>April 2011–March 2012  |                  |
|--|---|--|---|------------------|
|  | 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<br><i>“There is still only poor understanding of the impact of climate change on developing countries...”</i><br><a href="#">See Research Strategy</a> Page 26 (Bookmark 12)         |   | Possible invitations for research under the Eco System Services for Poverty Alleviation (ESPA) programme, jointly funded with NERC and ESRC. |   |                  |
| Climate change in national and international policy<br><i>“There are already solutions for reducing carbon emissions and adapting to climate change...”</i><br><a href="#">See Research Strategy</a> Page 27 (Bookmark 13) |   | Possible invitations for research under the Climate and Development Knowledge Network (CDKN), dependent on progress during inception         |   |                  |
| Adaptation strategies<br><i>“We will continue to prioritise research and programmes that help countries adapt to climate change...”</i><br><a href="#">See Research Strategy</a> Page 27 (Bookmark 14)                     | Climate Change Adaptation research programme covering Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean (CCA-ALAC) under design.          | Subject to approval, possible invitations for research under a Climate Change in Asia and Latin America adaptation programmes.               |   |                  |

|  |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|--|
| <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><a href="#">See Research Strategy</a> Page 28<br/>(Bookmark 15)</p> |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|--|

## Research Theme: Health

| Topic and relevant Research Strategy commitment   | Year 3:<br>April 2010—March 2011   |   | Year 4<br>April 2011—March 2012   |                  |
|---|--|---|---|------------------|
|   | 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><a href="#">See Research Strategy</a> Page 29 (Bookmark 16)</p> | <p>Scope the research priorities around:</p> <p>Artemisinin Resistant Malaria;</p> <p>Maternal and Neonatal Health; and</p> <p>Education</p> | <p>Complete competitive procurement exercises and award contracts for Research Programme Consortia in 2 phases.</p> <p>Shortlisted tenders have been received for Phase 1 (Meeting the Unmet Need for Family Planning and Improving Access to Safe Abortion Services; Delivering Effective Health Services; Health Systems Financing; and Evidence Building and Synthesis Research). Expect to award contracts mid 2010.</p> <p>Closing date of 23 April 2010 for Expressions Of Interest for Phase 2 (Tackling the Neglected Crisis of Undernutrition; Tackling the Structural Drivers of the HIV Epidemic; Improving Mental Health Services in Low Income Countries). Expect to award contracts early 2011.</p> <p>Subject to approval, UK Medical Research Council periodically invites 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><a href="#">See Research Strategy</a> Page 30 (Bookmark 17)</p>   |  | <p>Shortlisted bids have been received for Research Programme Consortia on: Delivering Effective Health Services; and Health Systems Financing. Expect to award contracts mid 2010</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><a href="#">See Research Strategy</a> Page 30 (Bookmark 18)</p> |  | <p>Funding to 4 additional Product Development Partnerships announced in 2010: AERAS Global TB Vaccine Foundation; Foundation for Innovative New Diagnostics; Institute For One World Health; and PATH Diarrhoeal Disease Vaccine.</p>   |  |  |

## Research Theme: Governance in challenging environments

| Topic and relevant Research Strategy commitment  | Year 3:<br>April 2010–March 2011  |   | Year 4:<br>April 2011–March 2012  |   |
|--|---|---|---|---|
|  | 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><a href="#">See Research Strategy</a> Page 31 (Bookmark 19)</p> | <p>Full tenders for “Governance Security and Justice in Conflict Affected Situations” and “Livelihoods, Social Protection and Basic Services in fragile and conflict affected situations” research programmes were submitted in 2009/2010. The programmes will be launched in 2010/11.</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><a href="#">See Research Strategy</a> Page 32 (Bookmark 20)</p>  | <p>Scoping potential for a new poverty research programme</p> <p>Scoping potential for impact assessment work on social protection</p> <p>Scoping potential for work on gender and development</p> <p>The ESRC/DFID Joint Research Fund on International Development will have two calls for individual research projects - one in July 2010.</p> | <p>Subject to approval advertise competition for new poverty research programme in 2010/11.</p> | <p>The ESRC/DFID Joint Research Fund on International Development will have a call for individual research projects in July 2011.</p> | <p>Subject to approval advertise competition for research programmes on social protection and gender.</p> |

|  |  |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|--|--|
| <p>Strong and effective states</p> <p><i>“Our policy research across countries will examine different forms of state responsibility...”</i></p> <p><a href="#">See Research Strategy</a> Page 33<br/>(Bookmark 21)</p> | <p>Full proposals for “States Delivering For Poor People” research programme submitted in 2009/10. Programme will be launched in 2010/11</p> |  |  |  |
| <p>Migration</p> <p><i>“Developed countries tend to be concerned about illegal or irregular migration...”</i></p> <p><a href="#">See Research Strategy</a> Page 33<br/>(Bookmark 23)</p>                               | <p>New research programme on “Migration and development” to be launched in 2010/11</p>   |  |  |  |

## Research Theme: Future challenges and opportunities

| Topic and relevant Research Strategy commitment  | Year 3:<br>April 2010–March 2011  |  | Year 4:<br>April 2011–March 2012   |                  |
|--|---|--|--|------------------|
|  | 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>Future of aid and beyond</p> <p><i>“Research must now look beyond the MDGs...”</i></p> <p><a href="#">See Research Strategy</a> Page 34 (Bookmark 24)</p>   | <p>New, flexible, competition developed to facilitate the examination of emerging ideas and themes which may help DFID identify and develop forward thinking on the strategic questions that might impact on and influence international development and aid in the future.</p>                         | <p>Modest 2 year research competition to be announced. Will support small scale research packages.</p> |  |                  |
| <p>New and emerging technologies</p> <p><i>“New and emerging cutting-edge technologies are being developed for industrialised markets...”</i></p> <p><a href="#">See Research Strategy</a> Page 35 (Bookmark 25)</p> | <p>New and Emerging Technologies research competition developed which will seek to identify the key challenges and barriers that may be reducing the impact of these technologies on the lives of poor people and help to identify some of the key technologies that may have an important impact..</p> | <p>Modest new 2 year research programme to be announced.</p>   |  |                  |

# Systematic Reviews

| <b>Topic</b>              | <b>Year 3:<br/>April 2010—March 2011</b>   |                  | <b>Year 4<br/>April 2011—March 2012</b>   |                  |
|---------------------------|--|------------------|---|------------------|
|                           | 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 |
| <b>Systematic Reviews</b> | Review and contracting of institutions applying for the pilot 55 systematic review questions (April to June). Second call for next phase of systematic reviews (Oct to Dec). |                  |   |                  |