



Newsletter – August 2018

**CGC is the University of Cambridge Strategic Research Initiative (SRI)
for the
United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**

News

Selection of global challenges-related news published in July 2018:

University of Cambridge research- related news

- [Cambridge researchers join new initiative on urban air pollution](#) Researchers from the Department of Chemistry at the University of Cambridge are part of a cutting-edge project to better understand Londoners' exposure to air pollution and improve air quality in the capital.
- [Cambridge partners with industry leaders to fund research on global sustainability challenges](#) The Prince of Wales Global Sustainability Fellowship Programme, hosted at the Cambridge Institute for Sustainability Leadership (CISL) represents a multi-million-pound commitment from the private sector to accelerate progress on UN Sustainable Development Goals.
- [Vice-Chancellor's awards showcase Cambridge researchers' public engagement and social impact](#) The 2018 winners of the Vice-Chancellor's Impact Awards at Cambridge University have been announced.
- [New Institute at Cambridge tackles cancer's 'big data' problem to revolutionise patient care](#) A new institute at the University of Cambridge aims to revolutionise cancer care by using cutting edge analytics to maximize the use of big data sets collected from patients.

Research- related news

- [Recipients of Newton-Bhabha grants to address the global health needs of women and children announced](#) Seven research partnerships will receive a total of £10 million under Phase 2 of the Global Research Programme on Health between UKRI (led by the MRC and ESRC), Department for International Development and India's Department of Biotechnology, under the Newton-Bhabha Fund.
- [How drones are helping in the fight against malaria](#) By combining high-tech drones with low-tech methods, researchers are embarking on a project funded by the Medical Research Council (MRC) to map out where mosquitoes breed in Malawi.
- [Sir David Attenborough launches new' polar ship](#) Sir David Attenborough has launched the 10,000-tonne hull of the UK's newest polar ship - named after him - into the River Mersey.
- [Ocean governance for human health and the role of the social sciences](#) (The Lancet, Planetary Health, Vol. 2, No. 7) Review of scholarly output by natural and social sciences on the interdependence between the planet's oceans and human health by R. Meissner.
- [Age-dependent health risk from ambient air pollution: a modelling and data analysis of childhood mortality in middle-income and low-income countries](#) (The Lancet, Planetary Health, Vol 2, No.7) Analysis of recent atmospheric chemistry-general circulation model and health statistics from the WHO Global Health Observatory by J. Leliefeld, A. Haines and A. Pozzer..
- [Ethylene-gibberellin signaling underlies adaptation of rice to periodic flooding](#) (Science, Vol. 361, Issue 6398) Deepwater rice varieties grow taller when flooded, in a growth response driven by the plant hormones

gibberellin and ethylene, to keep the leaves above the water. Kuroha et al. identified the genes underlying this phenotype.

- [Mental health and psychosocial support in humanitarian crises](#) (Humanitarian Exchange Magazine, Issue 72) This edition of Humanitarian Exchange, co-edited with Anne Harmer, Manager of Elrha's Research for Health in Humanitarian Crises (R2HC) Programme, focuses on mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) in humanitarian crises.
- [The Child of the Radio' - the positive public health impact of health communication](#) Development Media International (DMI) and the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine (LSHTM) are publishing the results of a randomised controlled in Burkina Faso that shows extraordinary results from a malaria education radio campaign.
- [Alternative cereals can improve water use and nutrient supply in India](#) (Science Advances, Vol. 4, No. 7) Scholarly article on the collaborative research into how to achieve reduced water consumption and increased nutrient content of commonly used cereal crops in India by K. F. Davis, D. D. Chiarelli, M. C. Rulli, A. Chhatre, B. Richter, D. Singh and R. deVries.
- [Software helps cut Indian cows' methane emissions](#) A software tool developed by India's National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) is helping balance the diets of 2.4 million heads of Indian cattle leading to increased milk output and reduced methane emissions, an international livestock conference heard.
- [How to Get to SDG 6: Invisible Barriers to Urban Water and Sanitation](#) In order to meet Sustainable Development Goal 6, N. Jeffery argues, the invisible challenges to better urban water and sanitation systems have to be tackled, too: governance, finance, and capacity development.
- [A better measure of research from the global south](#) (Nature, Vol. 559, Issue 7712) Canada's International Development Research Centre (IDCR) developed a tool to evaluate the quality of research that is grounded in, and applicable to, the local experience to change how we assess applied and translational research.
- [Digital Transformation in Africa: Three Lessons from India's Experience](#) African economies and India have faced many similar challenges to digital transformation. However, India has successfully launched many unique digital initiatives in the last few years. So what lessons can African countries learn from India's experience?

Funding- related news

- [£10 million research competition launched to tackle antimicrobial resistance](#) The competition aims to encourage the development of innovative scientific approaches to stopping antimicrobial resistance and to infection control and prevention.
- [Wellcome launches £250m Leap Fund to place big bets on bold research](#) Wellcome is to launch a new £250m fund that will place big bets on ambitious research programmes with the potential to fundamentally change science or transform health over a five- to ten-year horizon.
- [Implications of UK-EU negotiations for development and aid examined](#) The International Development Committee took evidence from the Secretary of State for International Development on UK-EU development cooperation and the implications for UK aid on 17th July 2018.
- [Money woes undermine pan-African science guidance](#) Africa's persistent lack of research funding could jeopardise the goals of a planned declaration outlining universal guiding principles for science on the continent, a Euroscience Open Forum, held in Toulouse, France, heard recently.
- [New global science body promises to reach poor regions](#) A non-governmental association of science said to be the world's largest was officially inaugurated in Paris, with the new president pledging to engage least developed nations as a part of its agenda.

Global challenges- related reports

- [UNSDG publishes 'Counting on the World' report](#) This new report by the UN's Sustainable Solutions Development Network provides an independent view on how national systems should evolve in order to harness the data revolution for sustainable development.
- [Low quality healthcare is increasing the burden of illness and health costs globally](#) Poor quality health services are holding back progress on improving health in countries at all income levels, according to a new joint report by the OECD, World Health Organization (WHO) and the World Bank.
- [ODI publishes 'Leave no one behind' index 2018](#) This index reviews the readiness of 86 countries to 'leave no one behind', monitoring the extent to which government systems are set up and ready to meet their leave no one behind commitment.
- [UN central platform reviews progress towards meeting the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the SDGs](#) The High-level Political Forum (HLPF), United Nations central platform for follow-up and review of the

2030 Agenda is meeting in New York under the theme 'Transformation towards sustainable and resilient societies'.

- [UK Collaborative on Development Research launched](#) The UK Collaborative on Development Research (UKCDR), a group of government departments and research funders working in international development, has launched a new brand and strategy.
- [Think tank ODI publishes briefing: Water and sanitation, migration and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#) This briefing considers the impact of migration on a variety of WASH-related Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), chiefly SDG 6: 'to ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all'.
- [Lord Ahmad publishes annual Human Rights Report 2017](#) Minister for Human Rights Lord Tariq Ahmad of Wimbledon, publishes the Foreign and Commonwealth Office's 2017 annual Human Rights and Democracy Report.
- ['Measuring Up' - Report on UK performance in meeting SDGs published by UKSSD](#) UK Stakeholders for Sustainable Development Group (UKSSD) in partnership with the All-Party Parliamentary Group for the UN Global Goals for Sustainable Development launched the Measuring Up report: a snapshot of how the UK is performing on the SDGs ahead of the country's voluntary 2019 national review.
- ['Pathways to change': IIED publishes its annual report 2017/18](#) The International Institute for Environment and Development presented its 2017/18 annual report in June.
- [DfID publishes individual country programmes for the financial years 2018/18 and 2019/20](#) The Department for International Development (DfID) has published a set of country profiles detailing its country programmes contribute to delivering the UK aid strategy for the financial years 2018/19 to 2019/2020.
- [2018 SDG Index and Dashboards Report 'Global Responsibilities – Implementing the Goals' published](#) The 2018 SDG Index and Dashboards Report, prepared by the Bertelsmann Stiftung and the Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN), is now available. This third edition of the annual stocktaking of progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) presents data for all 193 UN member states and assesses whether countries are on track to meet each of the 17 SDGs.
- [New FAO 2018 flagship reports on fisheries and forests published](#) The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) has published two key reports on the state of World Fisheries and Aquaculture (SOFIA) and the World's Forests (SOFO).

Please visit CGC's [news page](#) for more news.

Funding opportunities

Global challenges- related funding calls closing in August 2018:

Deadline	Call	Description
1 st August 2018	Research and Innovation for Global Health Transformation (RIGHT) - Call 1	Applications are invited for Call 1 of the new NIHR Research and Innovation for Global Health Transformation (RIGHT) programme for delivering challenge-led research that will primarily benefit the health and wealth of the poorest individuals living in low and middle income countries (LMICs).
3 rd August 2018	EPSRC IAA Knowledge Transfer Fellowships	Knowledge Transfer Fellowships will aim to transfer knowledge and expertise linked to EPSRC (Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council) research between the University and a partner company. The Fellowship will fund a researcher or member of academic staff to undertake a short secondment to a business or other partner organisation.
3 rd August 2018	EPSRC Impact Acceleration Account Partnership Development Awards	Pump-priming funding for new research collaborations. The award aims to establish closer working partnerships between researchers and business. Partnership Development Awards will pump-prime collaborations with industry partners.

4 th August 2018	Newton Bhabha PhD Placement Programme	The British Council, in partnership with the Departments of Science and Technology (DST) and Biotechnology (DBT), invites applications for funding support for short-term placements in United Kingdom (UK) and Indian institutions between March to October 2019
Eol: 7 th August 2018; Application deadline: 18 th October 2018	RS/WT Sir Henry Dale Fellowship - Summer 2018 round	This joint scheme by the Royal Society (RS) and the Wellcome Trust (WT) supports research ranging from the molecules and cells vital to life and their role in the global spread of disease, to clinical and public health research seeking to improve the quality of healthcare.
7 th August 2018	WT Open Research Fund Call	The Wellcome Trust (WT) supports researchers to develop and test innovative ways of making health research open, accessible and reusable.
7 th August 2018	Solutions Search Competition: Climate Change needs Behaviour Change	The competition is looking for solutions that apply behavior change insights to inspire and enable people to change the way they consume – the way they cook, eat, dispose of waste, purchase goods, travel, and more.
7 th August 2018	IPCC Task Group on Data Support for Climate Change Assessments: call for UK experts	Register your interest in serving as co-chair or member on the IPCC (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change) Task Group on Data Support for Climate Change Assessments (TG-Data).
8 th August 2018	GCRF/Academy of Medical Sciences/RAENG/British Academy/Royal Society Networking Grants	The scheme allows researchers from across disciplines and from developing countries and the UK to hold networking events, to forge new links and generate innovative transdisciplinary research ideas to address global challenges.
16 th August 2018	NERC/Newton Fund/CONCYTEC Call: Peruvian Glacial Retreat and its Impact on Water Security & Resilience to Natural Hazards	Proposals are invited for a new collaborative research programme between NERC and the National Council for Science, Technology & Technological Innovation (CONCYTEC), which aims to provide an improved understanding of the rate of glacial retreat in Peru and the impact of this on water security and natural hazards
10 th August 2018	Newton Fund Call for Participants to Researcher Links Workshop, Malaysia	Applications are invited under the Newton Fund for a workshop taking place 21 st to 25 th September 2018, Bandar Sunway, Malaysia: “Advancing work, health and well-being in rural and urban Malaysia”
Eol: 15 th August 2018; Application deadline: 16 th November 2018	WT/AHPSR Call: Heightening Institutional capacity for Government use of Health Research - HIGH-Res	The Wellcome Trust (WT) and The Alliance for Health Policy and Systems Research (AHPSR) have partnered to offer a new funding opportunity: Heightening Institutional capacity for Government use of Health Research (HIGH-Res). This award seeks to fund one consortium of research and policy-making institutions in low- and lower-middle-income countries.
Eol: 18 th August 2018	MRC/BBSRC/AHR/ESRC/CONCYTEC Call: Relationship between Food, Nutrition and Health	Several UK research councils and Peru’s Consejo Nacional de Ciencia, Tecnología e Innovación Tecnológica (CONCYTEC) jointly invite research proposals to the UK-Peru: Relationship between Food, Nutrition and Health call through the Newton Fund.
Eol: 31 st August 2018	GCRF/UKRI-UNDP joint report: How science, research and innovation can best contribute to meeting the SDGs for developing	UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) in collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) invites expressions of interest for a joint team of UK researchers and UNDP policymakers to collect evidence, develop original arguments and compose a major UKRI-UNDP report on how science, research and innovation might most effectively accelerate progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for developing countries.

The [funding page](#) of the CGC website is updated regularly with these and other funding opportunities – pre-call announcements, open calls, responsive calls and awards – related to global challenges.

Events

Selection of global challenges- related events in August 2018:

- [Lessons From The Past: Archaeology, Anthropology And The Future Of Food](#) – **23rd August 2018; Oxford Martin School University of Oxford, 34 Broad Street, Oxford OX1 3BD; registration deadline: 1st August 2018.** The Oxford Martin Future Of Food Programme and The British Museum are aiming to bring together leading researchers and practitioners to present and discuss the most recent innovations, trends, and concerns as well as practical challenges encountered and solutions adopted in the field of global food security.
- [SDG-Conference: Towards zero hunger - Partnerships for impact](#) – **30-31st August 2018, Wageningen Campus, Wageningen University & Research, The Netherlands.** The conference centres around Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): end hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture (SDG2) and create partnerships (SDG17).
- [5th Global Symposium on Health Systems Research](#) – **9-12th Oct 2018, Liverpool, UK; early bird registration: 31st August 2018.** Advancing Health Systems for All in the Sustainable Development Goal Era: How should health systems engage communities to achieve universal coverage?
- [Algal Biotechnology Techniques and opportunities for the sustainable bioeconomy](#) – **27-28th September 2018, Department of Plant Sciences, University of Cambridge, Downing Street, CB2 3EA; registration deadline: 31st August 2018.** The aim of this professional development course is to provide introductory hands-on training and theory in algal biology, culturing, growth and subsequent molecular and metabolite analysis under laboratory and small to large scale growth facilities.

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