

UK MRC and NIHR Agency-specific information

United Kingdom Medical Research Council and National Institute for Health and Care Research		
Overview	Funding agency website link	https://www.ukri.org/what-we-do/browse-our-areas-of-investment-and-support/global-alliance-for-chronic-diseases/
	Link to agency-specific application form/Lol	n/a
	Agency specific deadlines	n/a
	Total budget available for the call	£5M
	Approximate number of projects to be funded through this grant call	3-4
	Permitted project length (in years)	3-5 years
Scope	Eligible Conditions	MRC and NIHR will accept applications addressing multiple long-term conditions including non-communicable diseases (MLTC NCD) as defined in the Ninth GACD Funding Call document on the GACD website
	Eligible experimental approaches	We encourage applicants to refer to the new framework on complex interventions to improve health – UKRI
Specific National Rules	Principal Investigator	<p>The Principal Investigators applying to MRC and NIHR for this call must be hosted by a UK institution which is eligible for Medical Research Council funding. The Principal Investigator must work in partnership with co-investigators based in low- or middle-income countries (LMICs) where the work will take place.</p> <p>Co-investigator organisations can be based overseas. In addition to the eligible research organisations outlined in the MRC guidance for applicants, the following organisations are eligible to host Co-Investigators on applications to the MRC and NIHR. All organisations must have sufficient capacity to deliver research projects, including robust financial management processes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Higher education institutions based in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) – A university or institution based in an LMIC with degree awarding powers recognised by the government in which the organisation is based.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research institutes based in LMICs – A research focused institution based in an LMIC funded by the government of the country in which the organisation is based or by a not-for-profit organisation. • Research focused non-profit organisations based in LMICs – A not-for-profit organisation based in an LMIC with dedicated research capacity. • Non-profit organisations – A not-for-profit organisation based in an LMIC. This can include grassroots organisations, and community groups and does not have to have specific research capacity. <p>Investigators from high-income countries outside of the UK are not eligible to apply as Principal Investigators but can be named as Co-Investigators with justification for why the expertise they are providing cannot be found in the UK or an LMIC.</p> <p>Where there is engagement from individuals based in government agencies, international intergovernmental organisations (e.g., WHO), or other stakeholder organisations (e.g. industry collaborators) it is expected that their costs will not be covered by the grant. In exceptional circumstances it may be possible to include costs associated with staff members of government ministries, where a proportion of their time is spent working on the project. The costs of named government officials must be discussed and agreed before submission, please contact Aaron Holliday at international@mrc.ukri.org</p>
	Co-funding considerations	Applicants to the MRC and NIHR can apply for co-funding with other GACD funding agencies. To encourage this, where the review panel assigns two or more top-scoring applications the same score, and there is insufficient funding to award all of these applications, priority will be given to applicants who have applied for co-funding. Please contact funding@gacd.org to discuss opportunities for co-funding before applying.
	Project location	Studies funded through the MRC and NIHR should focus upon countries with low- or middle-income economies. OECD definitions of low- and middle-income economies can be found at DAC List of ODA Recipients .
	Eligible costs and specific funding conditions	MRC and NIHR will fund research projects between 3 and 5 years in duration.

		<p>Information about eligible costs can be found here: https://www.ukri.org/councils/mrc/guidance-for-applicants/costs-we-fund/</p> <p>Funding will be awarded in line with standard MRC practice. If a grant is awarded, the MRC will provide funding for the UK investigators' costs at 80 per cent of the Full Economic Cost and the Research Organisation(s) must agree to find the balance of FEC for the project from other resources.</p> <p>There is a strong expectation that most of the costs requested will go to low- and middle-income country partners. The UK MRC and NIHR require proposals with co-investigators based in low- or middle-income countries. One hundred percent of their direct costs and up to 20% of their direct costs as indirect costs can be funded. These costs should be listed as 'Exceptions' on the budget template that is uploaded.</p> <p>If a co-investigator is based in a high-income country they can be included in the proposal and can claim 100% of essential direct costs but cannot claim any indirect costs. However, we recommend that applicants keep costs claimed by non-UK high income country partners to a minimum.</p>
Resources	Please provide a link to your agency's guidance on equality, diversity and inclusion best practices, if available, and links to any other relevant policies	<p><u>Equality, diversity and inclusion – UKRI</u> MRC ethics guidance can be found here: https://www.ukri.org/councils/mrc/guidance-for-applicants/5-ethics-and-approvals/5-2-human-participants-in-research/</p> <p>UKRI safeguarding policy can be found here: https://www.ukri.org/about-us/policies-standards-and-data/good-research-resource-hub/preventing-harm-in-research/</p>
	Further information	For questions about the MRC-NIHR process, please contact international@mrc.ukri.org