

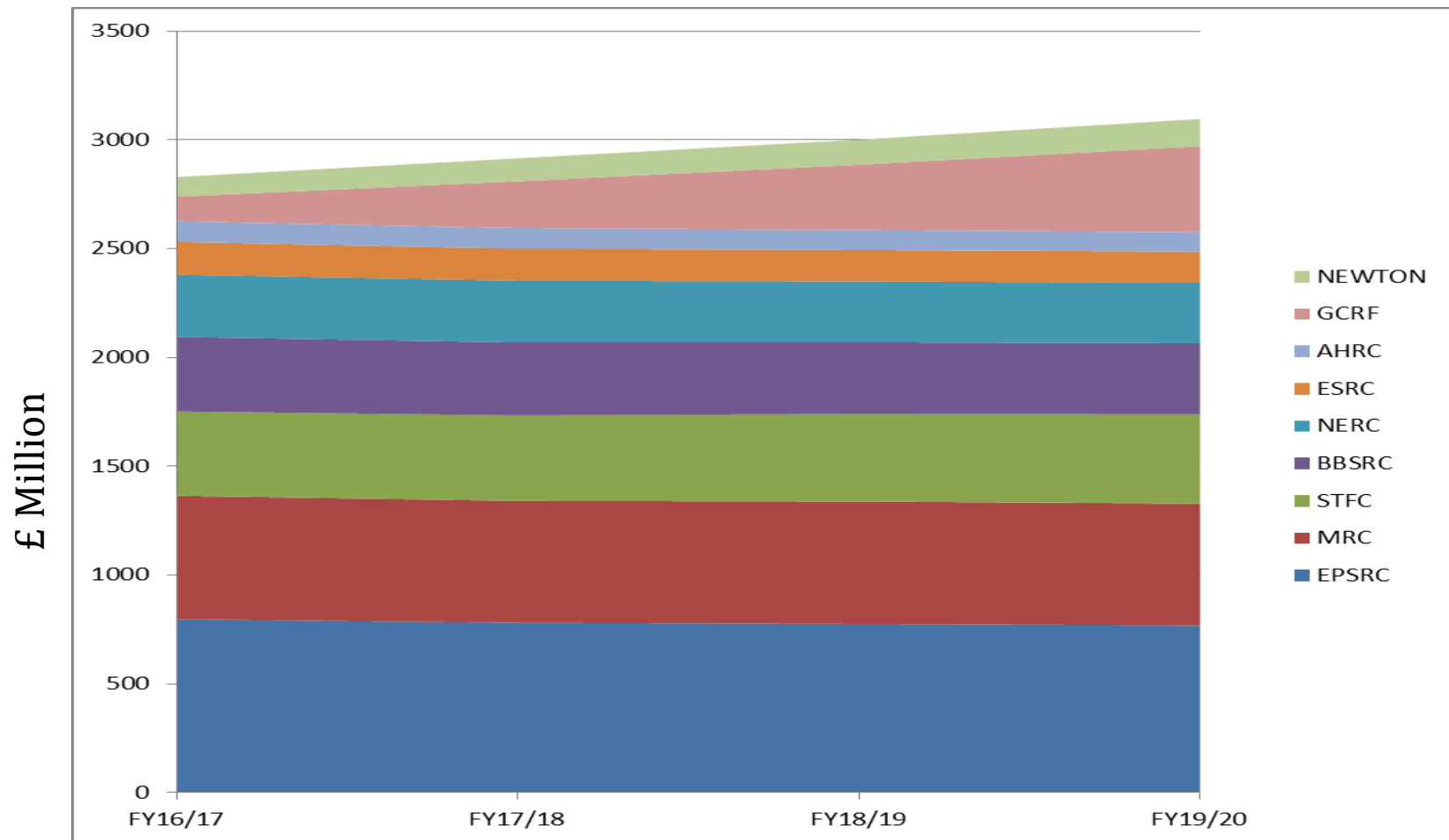
**The Global Challenges
Research Fund (GCRF)**

An Introduction for SIID

The Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF)

£1.5 billion on research over 5 years (starting now)

Honours commitment to spend 07% GNI on ODA and increases the 'Science' budget!



The Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF)

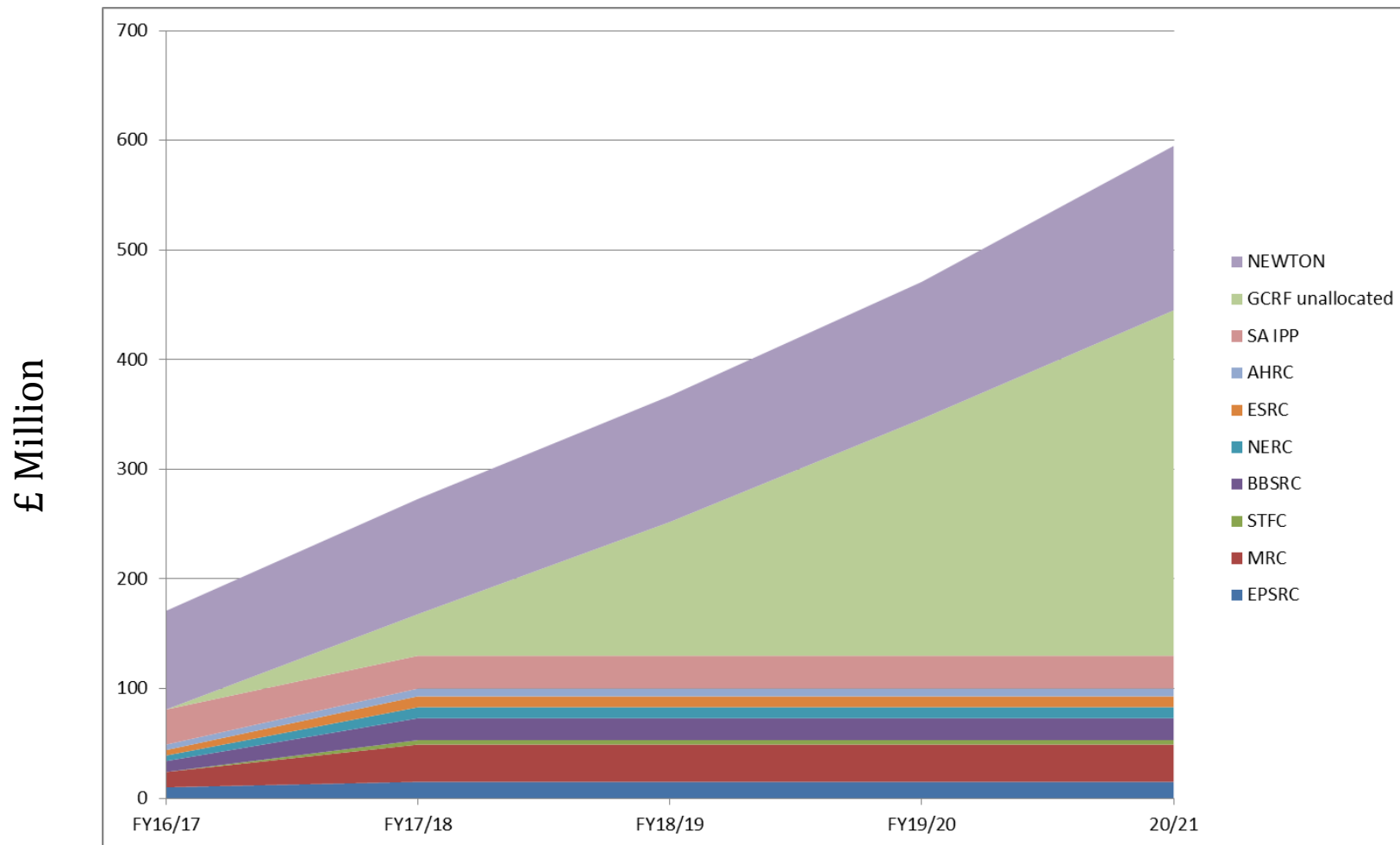
Entails vital new risk and work for Research Councils . . .
in a context of job cuts.

All expenditure must be ODA compatible / IDA compliant (or else you give it back)

But also a remarkable opportunity for development research

The Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF)

How do you spend £1.5 billion on research?



Meaning	Agency	16/17	17/18	18/19	19/20	20/21*
Royal Soc, Brit Acad etc	National Academies	11	11	11	11	11
Umbrella Body for Higher Ed	HEFCE	20	37	37	37	37
Arts, Humanities	AHRC	5	7	7	7	7
Plants & other Biological Sci	BBSRC	10	20	20	20	20
Engineering Physical Sci	EPSRC	10	15	15	15	15
Economic and Social	ESRC	5	10	10	10	10
Medical Research Council	MRC	14	34	34	34	34
Natural Environment	NERC	5	10	10	10	10
Sciences & Technology	STFC	0	4	4	4	4
Space Agency Research	IPP	32	30	30	30	30
Country based research progs	Newton	90	105	115	125	150
Not sure - it will be multidisciplinary	Unallocated GCRF	0	38	122	216	315
	Total	202	320	414	518	714

* Outside the current parliament and so often not included in actual totals

The GCRF

What is ODA compatible research?

- Driven by effective international partnerships
- Strong impact potential and plans (engages beyond the academy)
- Answers correctly these questions:
 - > Is the project addressing the economic development and welfare of a country or countries on the official OECD eligibility list?
 - > Is there a real development need that the project is addressing?
 - > What evidence is there for that need?
 - > How would this project be applied in the country?
 - > What would the impact be, who would benefit and how would this be measured?

What does the GCRF look like in practice: the Newton Fund

- Extended for further 5 years, with £435m new funding. International partners provide ‘matched’ funding
- Aims to “develop science and innovation partnerships that promote the economic development and welfare of collaborating countries”
- These “...strong, sustainable, systemic relationships” will “...support the continued excellence of the UK research base and innovation ecosystem and act as a golden key to unlock opportunities for wider collaboration and trade”.
- Calls and guidance on www.newtonfund.ac.uk

Newton Fund Partner Countries



Newton Fund Delivery Partners

PEOPLE STRAND



THE ROYAL SOCIETY



PROGRAMME STRAND



TRANSLATION STRAND



Governance, Strategy, Programme Management



Department
for Business
Innovation & Skills



UK Science
& Innovation
Network

What does the GCRF look like in practice: current calls

Forced Displacement. (ESRC – AHRC) £3.5 mill(?) 12-15 bids up to £300k

GCRF / PaCCS Innovation Awards on Conflict and International Development. (ESRC-AHRC) £1 mill(?) 8-15 bids up to £100k

GCRF Centres Competition: Foundations of inclusive growth. (ESRC) £10 mill; 2 bids 5 mill each

GCRF Strategic Networks. (ESRC) £ 3 mill; 20-25 bids £75k-150k

Foundation awards (£600k) for:

Non-Communicable Disease (MRC, £19m total)

Infectious Disease (MRC, £9m total)

Global Agriculture and Food Systems (BBSRC, £15m total)

And existing EPSRC funding and ESRC funding (IAA) which has to be spent by December

What is the ESRC interested in?

Research for development (solving problems)
as development (capacity building)
on development (critique of development practice)

Substantively:

- Building effective institutions in conflict-affected and fragile states
- Migration, mobility and development
- Dynamics of inequalities
- Innovation and inclusive economic growth
- Shocks, security, risks and resilience

Within contexts of urbanisation, globalisation, digitisation and environmental change

BUT: how to build multi-disciplinary collaborations?