

Unit-level environment template (REF5b)

Institution: University of Manchester
Unit of Assessment: 22a (Development Studies)
<p>Section 1. Unit context and structure, research and impact strategy</p> <p>a. Overview</p> <p>The Unit of Assessment (UoA) consists of the Global Development Institute (GDI), which seeks to advance development theory, policy and practice through interdisciplinary scholarship and innovative impact work, plus three colleagues from Economics and the Business School. Since REF2014, the UoA has undergone a significant re-making and expansion, designed to further strengthen our capacity to undertake rigorous and engaged critical scholarship in order to advance social justice. GDI was established in 2016, when it sought and won Research Institute status – a large-scale multi-disciplinary hub working across the University of Manchester (UoM) – and was chosen to lead one of the University’s five Research Beacons, on Global Inequalities. Its establishment built on the longstanding strengths of the Institute for Development Policy and Management and the Brooks World Poverty Institute, and we used this opportunity to undertake a major strategic reorganisation, establishing new structures for our research and impact work aimed at promoting an even more vibrant and sustainable centre of excellence for development studies. Celebrating 60 years of research and teaching in 2018, GDI sits within the five-discipline School of Environment, Education and Development (SEED) and a wider Faculty of Humanities that includes Schools of Social Sciences and Business, and also alongside departments of Engineering and Medicine in other Faculties, facilitating multi-disciplinary collaboration in research. In July 2020, GDI employed 44 Cat A staff, almost double the number of 26 staff employed at REF2014.</p> <p>Since 2014, our achievements include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An accelerated flow of high-quality publications, including over 400 papers in premier journals and 24 books with leading publishers. • Securing significant impacts on a wide range of development policy actors in ways that have directly improved development outcomes in the global south. • Graduating 136 PhD students in development studies compared with 96 in the previous period; creating the Brooks Doctoral Training College in 2016 has enabled us to secure increased PhD scholarships and further enhance our PGR provision. • Outstanding success in attracting 22 postdoctoral fellowships awarded by the British Academy, ESRC, GCRF, Leverhulme and UoM’s Presidential Fellowships and Hallsworth endowment. • Significant contributions to the field of development studies, including hosting five major international conferences, providing two DSA Presidents and an EADI Vice-President, and eight full journal editorships. • Winning many prestigious international prizes and commendations for our contributions, including from the Academia Europaea; Academy of Social Sciences; American Academy of Arts and Sciences; American Association of Geographers; Australian Research Council Laureate Fellow; the Royal Geographic Society–Institute of British Geographers Busk Medal; Balzan Prize; Order of Agricultural Merit (Officer; France); and an Order of the British Empire. • Winning over £47million of external research grants, compared to £14million in the last period, including for three major international research consortia led by GDI staff and with over 70% of CatA staff securing funding. <p>b. Research strategy</p>

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The key objectives that we established at REF2014 were to:

- (1) **contribute to the development of theoretical and empirical scholarship** in fields central to development theory and policy;
- (2) **explore and propose new or emerging concepts** from across the social sciences, as they relate to development studies;
- (3) **provide our researchers with the independence and resources** to develop and pursue important ideas and issues that lie **outside our present major themes**;
- (4) **build new co-productive research approaches**.

Following the launch of GDI, we undertook a major strategic reorganisation to build on our previous success and fulfil our strategic objectives. An Institute-wide participatory exercise identified new knowledge frontiers around which we established new research groups, each built on a critical mass of staff and with all staff belonging to at least one group. These groups support individual and collective scholarship, with an emphasis on producing trans-disciplinary and impactful knowledge. Inter-group activities, and the fact that 20 staff from other UoM departments are also active participants in our research groups, further strengthens trans-disciplinarity. This section introduces these seven research groups. Prior to this, it sets out the four integrative themes that cut across our research endeavours, enable collaborative work across GDI and reflect our distinctive contribution to the field. (The impact-related activities of each group are covered in Section 4.)

GDI's research has four key integrating themes:

1. **Addressing inequality, injustice and poverty.** All research groups focus on how persistent inequalities should be understood and challenged in pursuit of social justice.
2. **Overcoming North–South binaries.** This is manifest in our organising concepts (global development), modes of working (explicit North–South comparisons), knowledge exchanges and co-productive relationships between Northern and Southern collectives. Institute-wide efforts to develop a new paradigm of 'global development' have included a monthly Global Development Reading Group, an international workshop in 2017 and papers that catalysed a special issue of *Development and Change* in 2019 and informed *World Development's* special issue on pandemics (accepted June 2020).
3. **Environmental sustainability.** The critical challenge of ensuring a sustainable future shapes the work of most research groups and our major trans-disciplinary research centre on **FutureDAMS**.
4. **Exploring multi-scalar governance and politics.** GDI researchers have identified and theorised new forms of multi-scalar governance, including South–South and polycentric governance in global value chains, and revealed how the interaction of transnational, national and local governance processes shapes development futures, particularly through the **Effective States and Inclusive Development (ESID)** research centre.

Research group members regularly interact with each other across group boundaries in order to interrogate these broader themes, through joint meetings, research strategy sessions of group leaders and informal relationships built around shared interests and ideas. All of our major externally funded research centres, including the new £32million research centre on **African Cities**, were won through collaborations between research groups. These centres form a critical element of our research environment, enabling us to deliver on our research

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and impact strategies both within and across groups. This is reflected in the key contributions that each of our seven research groups has made in this REF period.

Research groups

The Agrarian Change and Political Ecology (ACPE) group includes eight staff, five postdoctoral researchers and eight PhD students. Members have published 59 SSCI journal papers, four special issues and three books since 2014 and generated £8.5million in research awards, including the FutureDAMS consortium. ACPE's key achievements have been in three areas:

1. **Agrarian change.** **Agarwal** has placed gender at the centre of agrarian debates and transformed understandings of the gendered nature of collective action through Leverhulme-funded research on group farming (see *ICS*). **Woodhouse's** ESRC-funded research (with **Dimova** and **Foster**) has shown that small-scale irrigation is more widespread in Africa than previously recognised, suggesting a new route for improving food security and agricultural productivity for smallholders.
2. **Natural resource governance.** The group's research has changed how natural resource governance is conceptualised and the implications this has for inequality and poverty reduction. **Bebbington's** DFID-funded research via ESID reconceptualised how politics shapes the governance and outcomes of extractive industries. Working through FutureDAMS, **Hulme**, **Dimova**, **Lavers** and **Whittington** have combined with engineers to develop decision-making frameworks to improve the planning and governance of water/energy/food/environment systems. **Frederiksen's** British Academy- and ESID-funded research on mining provides a new framework for conceptualising private sector approaches to corporate social responsibility. **Oldekop** has established a new standard for evaluating the outcomes of natural resource government policies through EU-funded research. **Whittington's** research shows how current approaches to water resource governance are placing increasing costs on low-income households. **Enns** shows how contemporary investments in land and natural resources help reproduce colonial era processes of land alienation and displacement.
3. **Conservation and environmental change.** Multiple breakthroughs include **Oldekop** producing the first global-scale assessment of the social and conservation outcomes of protected areas; **Brockington's** original critiques of the poverty-inducing effects of conservation areas and the role of 'celebrity advocacy' in promoting conservation; **Pritchard's** new interdisciplinary method for evaluating environmental coping strategies; and **Kothari's** use of ESRC funding to generate new understandings of the everyday social challenges of environmental change for island communities.

Our Digital Development (DD) group has published 37 SSCI journal papers and a book, and generated £918,000 in research awards since 2014. DD includes ten GDI researchers and 11 PhD students, and forms part of the Centre for Digital Development, which it runs with colleagues from the Alliance Manchester Business School (AMBS) and the School of Computer Science. DD's core contributions include:

1. **Promoting data justice:** **Heeks**, **Renken** and **Tampubolon** have developed a conceptual and practical foundation for "data justice" for groups marginalised by datafication and aligned this with original datasets and data science to provide novel insights into development issues.
2. **Tracking the uneven impact of digital technologies:** **Gao**, **Duncombe**, **Heeks** and **Krishnan** have developed new models to calibrate the uneven impact of digital

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systems on low-income communities and on labour, agricultural and innovation markets.

3. **Conceptualising digital economies: Azmeh, Foster, Gao and Heeks** have created new conceptualisations of emerging digital economies and mapped the role and impact of digital trade, platforms, standards and innovation.

*Our **Growth and Distribution (G&D)** group includes eight GDI staff, two colleagues from Economics, three postdoctoral researchers and 16 PhD students. Members have published 129 SSCI journal papers, one special issue and five books since 2014, and generated £3.9million in research awards. G&D's significant achievements encompass three areas:*

1. **Economic growth and fiscal capacity.** **Sen's** research with world-leading economists from Harvard has provided a new framework for understanding economic growth that has had significant policy impacts (see *ICS*). **Savoia** and **Sen** have demonstrated that the ability of states to deliver increased revenues, effective financial management and poverty reduction depends on the role of political institutions. **Ouattara** has shown how multi-country insurance schemes help offset the fiscal stress generated by climate change shocks and **Zhang** how investments in infrastructure support the growth process in China.
2. **Social protection and social policy.** **A Barrientos** used ESRC–DFID funds to produce the Social Assistance Explorer, a unique database that has catalysed new research and policy. A significant body of DFID- and World Bank-funded research by **Hickey** and **Lavers** generated a new framework for measuring and explaining how politics shapes social protection in Africa. Innovative mixed methods work by **Das** reveals that social protection schemes in India are producing new forms of post-clientelistic politics. **Tampubolon's** work on mitigating cardiovascular disease has transformed health policy in Indonesia (*ICS*).
3. **Income and asset inequalities.** Using behavioural economics to generate new understandings of household-level inequalities, **Fielding** has improved understandings of ethnic inequalities and conflict by incorporating experimentally induced measures of trust. **Dimova's** British Academy research has generated a novel interpretation of educational inequalities through the prism of parental behavioural preferences. New insights have also been generated into the effects of gender inequality in Sub-Saharan Africa (**Lawson**) and the evolution of rural–urban inequality in Asia (**Imai**).

*The **Global Production Networks, Trade and Labour (GPNTL)** research group has published 38 SSCI journal papers, four special editions of leading journals and two books since 2014, and generated £1.6million in research awards. It consists of five GDI staff, three postdoctoral researchers and ten PhD students, and includes colleagues from Geography and AMBS. Key contributions include:*

1. **GVCs and the uneven rise of the Global South.** GPNTL has led research on the changing role of the Global South in global value chains (GVCs). **Horner** and **Nadvi's** work on 'polycentric trade' reconceptualises development trajectories in GVCs, foregrounding the role of Southern actors, particularly through **Nadvi's** ESRC-funded work on Rising Powers. **Horner's** ESRC award revealed the distinct South–South value chains constituting India's pharmaceutical industry in Africa. **Jepson's** CUP monograph demonstrated the impacts of China's rise on natural resource-exporting countries.
2. **Social upgrading and gender within GVCs.** **S Barrientos'** research leadership on

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social upgrading and labour in GVCs is encapsulated in her 2019 CUP monograph (supported by Leverhulme), which pioneers new and impactful understandings of gender and inequality within GVCs (ICS). GPNTL's work has demonstrated how trade regimes (**Azmeh, Nadvi**) and state governance (**Alford**) shape labour conditions in GPNs. **Nadvi's** ESRC-funded work showed how Brazil, India and China increasingly set labour standards within GPNs. **S Barrientos, Alford** and **Nadvi's** current ESRC GCRF project explores the implications of regional value chains in Sub-Saharan Africa for decent work.

3. **The fourth industrial revolution and global production.** **Foster** has demonstrated the implications of internet connectivity for producers' participation in GVCs, while **Azmeh** and **Foster** have exposed the dangers of inequality in the growing digitalisation of GVCs and trade. **Krishnan's** ESRC and Hallsworth Fellowships explore the implications of 'Agtech' for farmers in East Africa.

The Migration, Refugees and Asylum (MRA) has published 23 SSCI journal papers, one special issue and six books since 2014 and generated £1.2million in research awards, including two major new grants. The group includes four GDI academic staff members, with an additional six academics from Politics, Sociology and HCRI, and ten PhD students from across these disciplines. MRA's core contributions concern:

1. **Migration and inequalities.** MRA has advanced understandings of the relationship between migration and inequality, including **Bastia's** work on intersectionality and ageing, **Bakewell's** critiques of neo-liberal approaches to migration and **Müller's** work on forced migration. **Bastia** and **Bakewell** are producing novel insights into the interlinkages between migration, poverty and gender through their leadership roles within the new GCRF South-South Migration Hub and ongoing work on migration and displacement in East Africa and the Horn of Africa (**Bakewell**).
2. **Rethinking mobility and borders.** **Kothari, Bakewell** and **Müller** have contributed original insights into current and historical patterns of migration and mobility, advanced new conceptions of political remittances and reframed the role of borders. This includes work on socialist and post-socialist citizenship and on borderlands (**Müller, Kothari**).
3. **Rethinking citizenship and belonging.** Group members have reconceptualised citizenship as a practice of political resistance, solidarity and belonging, including in relation to African refugees in Israel (**Müller**), migrants in informal settlements (**Bastia**) and diaspora populations (**Müller, Bakewell**), and produced new notions of 'home' (**Bastia, Kothari**). ESRC funded work (**Müller, Bakewell**) is examining transnational lived citizenship in relation to diasporas in the Horn of Africa.

Politics, Governance and Management (PGM) includes ten GDI staff, four postdoctoral researchers and 12 PhD students. Through capturing over £11.6million of research funding and publishing 77 SSCI journal papers and six books since 2014, the PGM group has made advances in three particular areas:

1. **Effective states.** Through their leadership of the DFID-funded ESID Research Centre, **Hickey** and **Sen** (with **Behuria, Lavers** and **Tyce**) have significantly progressed the field of politics and development, offering new theoretical frameworks and insights into multiple policy domains (ICS). **Savoia, Sen** and **Hulme** have produced a basis for conceptualising and measuring state and fiscal capacity in the Global South in relation to reaching the SDGs and **Behuria** has advanced understandings of developmental

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states and contemporary patterns of state–business relations in Africa.

Chimhowu's ESRC strategic network is leading efforts to rethink how national planning regimes can enable the SDGs to be fulfilled.

2. **Social movements and NGOs.** **Banks, Bebbington, Hulme and Mitlin** have continued to shape debates about the contribution of civil society to development, with new research on NGOs and development alternatives proving highly influential. **Mitlin** has reconceptualised social movement strategies and co-produced research with activists that shows how state–civil society relations can advance social justice. **Banks** and **Brockington** have compiled an original database on UK NGOs that highlights the resource concentration taking place in the sector. **Bebbington** has developed new theory and empirics on the impacts of social movements on transparency and accountability in the governance of extractive industries.
3. **Organisational change and effectiveness.** **Hossain, Mamman and Rees** have advanced understandings of how organisations can achieve development, particularly at the public–private sector interface. Their new EU grant has enabled them to expose the interface between globalisation and business practices in Africa. **Hickey's** ESRC-DFID-funded project identified the political conditions that shape how 'pockets of bureaucratic effectiveness' emerge and promote development in difficult contexts.

The Urban Futures (UF) group has generated £24.5million of research funding, most notably through its leadership in winning the African Cities Research Centre, and published 40 SSCI journal papers, two special issues and one book since 2014. UF includes four GDI staff, three non-GDI academics, two postdoctoral researchers and six PhD students. Its key contributions have been in the following areas:

1. **Understanding urban marginalisation and disadvantage.** **Banks'** ESRC-Future Leader award revealed the intersectional disadvantages faced by urbanised Tanzanian youth. **Mitlin** has shown how civil society groups help municipal governments deliver poverty reduction in India and Uganda (DFID-funded via ESID). **Whittington** and **Mitlin** have analysed inequitable access to water in urban settlements, showing how needs can be addressed through improved subsidy design and accurate definitions of affordability.
2. **Analysing contemporary urbanisation.** All members have revealed new patterns of informality and inequality in urban areas, including in relation to work (**Banks, Schindler**), housing (**Gillespie**), water and sanitation (**Mitlin**) and waste (**Schindler**). **Schindler's** (ESRC-funded) work reveals how deindustrialisation and peri-urban development are reshaping patterns of urbanisation. He has also proposed a new paradigm for understanding 'Southern urbanism'.
3. **Transcending North–South Boundaries.** **Mitlin** and **Gillespie** have generated new insights into homelessness and marginalisation in the UK by applying the lens of development studies. **Gillespie's** British Academy-funded work has demonstrated the significance of transnational finance to urban transformation in both Accra and London and his new Hallsworth fellowship extends this work to Lagos and Nairobi.

We are confident that this reorganisation of GDI around these seven research groups and four integrating themes has offered us the right platform from which to further extend the quality and impact of our research across a wide range of frontiers in development theory and practice.

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c. Details of future strategic aims and goals for research and impact, the way these relate to the structure of the unit and how they will be taken forward

Our overarching goals are to ensure that GDI undertakes rigorous and engaged critical scholarship that helps to advance social justice and to further establish GDI's as a world-leading centre for development research. The key strategic objectives to be pursued to reach these goals are to:

1. **Conceptually advance the field of development studies**, particularly through critically elaborating a new paradigm of **global development**. This project has gained urgency in light of the Covid-19 pandemic, which has re-emphasised the significance of global interconnectedness and lesson-learning across South–North boundaries (see our collective contribution to *World Development*).
2. Invest in building **inter- and trans-disciplinary research approaches** that we can apply across a greater range of global development challenges. This will build on the kinds of expertise and networks established through our work on FutureDAMS, global health (*ICS*) and urban infrastructure, and be operationalised within both African Cities and through our ongoing and future bids for new research funding.
3. Ensure a **vibrant research environment** through enhanced support for our new research groups, enabling them to drive forward new research agendas and act as nurturing environments for enhancing staff career trajectories, particularly of ECRs. Since April 2020, groups have been meeting virtually to reframe their research agendas in relation to contemporary challenges, including but also beyond Covid-19, and a new structure to institutionalise collaboration across groups has been established.
4. Ensure that **our research and impact strategies are delivered in an effective and socially responsible manner**. Post-Covid, we will take further steps to ensure that research and uptake activities are co-produced with key stakeholders (including Southern-based research partners, local government officials, community activists) in ways that extends their capacities and deepens the quality, integrity and impact of our shared work. The African Cities Research Centre has these principles at its core and, along with our high-capacity communications and impact team, will make a significant contribution to achieving this shared objective.

Section 2. People**a. Staff strategy and recruitment**

GDI's capacity to deliver on its research and impact objectives has flowed from its success in attracting, nurturing and retaining world-leading researchers from diverse backgrounds and across all career stages. Research excellence is the primary criterion for Cat A appointments. UoA staffing strategies are overseen by the Head of Institute in discussion with the Head of School, and informed by the departmental Research Director and research group leads. In this REF period, we have nearly doubled in size, from 26 to 44 members of Cat A staff. Recruitment is closely aligned with our research groups, with all seven benefiting from new appointments since REF2014. We have maintained strong continuity within our staff base, with only a few staff leaving to take up major opportunities (e.g. **Sen**, on extended leave, and **Brockington** to direct UNU-WIDER and the Sheffield Institute for International Development, respectively). Our status as a Research Beacon within UoM has enhanced our capacity to attract prestigious Fellowships (e.g. **Das**, **Enns**, **Foster** and **Pritchard**). External grant

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capture has enabled us to appoint new colleagues, and we have been successful in converting these into either permanent posts (e.g. **Horner**) or prestigious postdoctoral positions (**Gillespie, Jepson**).

b. Staff development

UoM is committed to supporting the personal, professional and career development of its researchers and PGRs and has a European Commission HR-Excellence-in-Research Award in recognition of this work. The Faculty Researcher Development Team uses the Vitae Researcher Development Framework to plan and design opportunities for each academic year and funds researcher-led initiatives to encourage colleagues to influence and inspire their peers. The Staff Learning and Development team offers opportunities for personal and professional development, through both general training (e.g. project management) and one-to-one developmental support (e.g. coaching). UoM also runs annual leadership training for mid-career and more senior staff, and supports external training where required.

Within the UoA, *research groups* are a key mechanism through which we support staff to produce world-leading research, develop new research agendas and proposals, promote impact and nurture an inclusive research community. All groups include a mixture of PGR students, ECRs and senior staff, with the latter providing mentoring, peer review of outputs and support for the development of collective and individual research projects. Research group leadership typically involves a senior member of staff working closely with a more junior colleague to help cascade research leadership skills. We receive financial support from the School to enable groups to invite guest speakers, hold seminars to improve research outputs and pursue impact opportunities. An annual budget of c£11,000 is available to GDI's research groups, with additional monies for PGR-specific activities.

Annual reviews: in line with SEED policy, GDI operates an annual appraisal system comprising personal and research development elements. Led by senior staff, this provides a structure to manage staff performance against discipline norms and UoM expectations. We use it to identify personal skills and career development needs and match them to internal and external training opportunities. This in turn nurtures the creation of personal research visions and supports the enactment of both longer-term and more immediate research plans. UoM carries out an annual Research Review Exercise, involving rigorous peer review of staff publications under the oversight of GDI's Research Director, with feedback and targeted support provided to staff as required.

ECR staff development: we fully support ECRs to advance to the next stage of their academic career. ECRs receive higher levels of support through more intensive mentoring and targeted access to internal funding opportunities. Senior staff and research group leaders work closely with ECRs to put forward clear and realisable plans related to the development of research bids, research publications and impact strategies within the context of the annual review process outlined above. All newly appointed lecturers and Presidential Fellows are given a three-year probationary period, with a reduced teaching and administrative load that rises to a full one on a staggered basis, and formal training via the *Humanities New Academics Programme*. This includes units on research development, strategy and funding; postgraduate supervision training; integrating research and teaching, and knowledge exchange activities. All new staff entering probation receive written notice of what is expected of them and have a mentor who meets them every two months and an annual review process. The HoI meets with ECRs as a group on a six-monthly basis to discuss their experiences and perspectives.

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The *School Research Committee* oversees the wider research strategy and investment funds. *GDI's Research Director* represents GDI on this committee and acts as the conduit for ensuring that our work is aligned with School priorities and benefits from support at higher levels within UoM. This includes ensuring that funding and networking opportunities are directed to the relevant research groups and individuals. The RD oversees the research groups and convenes regular meetings of group leaders to consider progress on our overarching research themes, support alignment with Institute-wide objectives and share best practice on research group strategies.

Research incentives and leave: across the Faculty, 40% of the time of Cat A staff is protected for research activities, irrespective of research grant bidding success. Our buy-out policy adjusts teaching and administrative workloads to ensure that grant holders are able to deliver on their research commitments. UoM offers regular research sabbaticals to improve individual and collective research profiles, with staff eligible to apply for one semester of study leave in every seven semesters, subject to a clear plan and record of delivery receiving approval by the School Research Committee. Between 2014 and 2020, 48 sabbaticals were awarded to staff in GDI.

Research support: all academic staff can claim research-related expenses (c£1,300 pa) from the School Research Committee's annual budget. Both Faculty and School offer extensive opportunities each year for colleagues to apply for seed-corn funding to help with grant-raising, research piloting and impact-related work, and for targeted support for ECRs.

Impact: our strategic emphasis on impact is central to staff recruitment and development processes. All research groups and colleagues can access training, advice, and financial and technical support from GDI's dedicated Communications and Impact Team (see below). GDI staff also benefit directly from GDI's annual £20,000 budget for communications and impact work.

Post-doctoral scholars: we have attracted 22 fully funded postdoctoral scholarships in the current period, including ten for scholars from the Global South:

- ESRC Future Leaders/New Investigators award: Horner (2016–20), Schindler (2018–22);
- British Academy: Tyce (2020–23);
- Leverhulme: Jepson (2020–23);
- ESRC–GCRF studentships: Machingura, Maitrot (2016–17);
- ESRC one-year awards: Krishnan (2018–19); Tyce (2019–20); Pruce (2020–21);
- Simon and Hallsworth fellowships (three-year UoM endowments): Buckley (2014), Horner (2015), Behuria (2017), Krishnan, Jepson and Gillespie (2019);
- Five GCRF one-year awards for Global South scholars: Bukenya (2019–20), Efe (2019–20), Weldeghebrael (2020–21), Yeboah-Assiamah (2019–20), Abdulai (2020–21);
- UoM Presidential Fellow awards: Foster (2018–), Das, Enns, and Pritchard (all 2020–).

We prioritise scholars working in alignment with our research groups and ensure that they become nested within these.

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Fostering a supportive research culture: GDI undertakes extensive efforts to nurture an organisational culture based on collegiality as well as excellence. This hinges on an inclusive and collaborative approach to management, the best recent example being the identification of our new research group structure through a participatory process over 2017–18. Other important examples include monthly Institute Forum meetings, termly group meetings that the HoI holds with each cohort of staff (ECR, mid-level, senior), and regular Away Days that enable us to revisit our collective vision for research and impact and establish plans to realise this in line with the wider aspirations of the School and University.

Staff development is a priority at all career stages. Annual leadership team meetings proactively identify staff who can be encouraged to submit for promotion and supports them to build their case. This strategy has paid dividends: since 2014, five Cat A staff were promoted from lecturer to senior lecturer and eight from senior lecturer to reader/professorships. Three staff on T&S contracts were also promoted to senior lecturer.

Social responsibility is a major strategic goal for UoM at all levels: measured against support for delivering the SDGs, the University ranked first among UK universities (and eighth in the world) in the *THE* University Impact Rankings in 2020. GDI's commitment to promoting social justice ensures that social responsibility forms part of our institutional-DNA and our work in this area is led by GDI's Director for Social Responsibility (**S Barrientos**, then **Banks**), who actively encourages staff to harness opportunities in this regard, including via Faculty funding. In 2017, three colleagues hosted a workshop for 18 participants on 'Making a Difference', with inputs from Northern and Southern think-tanks, CSOs and INGOs. GDI colleagues have won UoM's Making a Difference award twice: **Banks** in 2016 for her work in support of youth groups in Tanzania and **J Jordan** in 2017 for helping to popularise awareness of climate change in Bangladesh.

c. PGR recruitment, support and supervision

A major benefit of the transition to GDI in 2016 was the establishment of a bespoke Doctoral College that has significantly strengthened the strategic management of our research training programme. Funded through an external endowment, the College has enabled us to commit greater staff time to management, to recruit even stronger students and to expand and diversify the academic training and experience of PGRs working on development studies. The College is firmly situated within the School and Faculty structures for governing PGRs, and benefits greatly from ongoing training opportunities for them at these levels, and from events such as the School's annual PGR conference.

Since the formation of the Doctoral College, we have pursued the following strategic goals:

- Stronger linkages between PGR recruitment and the new research groups (e.g. group leaders now shortlist candidates for scholarship awards).
- Ensuring higher quality recruits, by identifying potential PhD applicants among high-performing undergraduates and taught postgraduates at Manchester and a more rigorous admissions process that includes a mandatory interview.
- Attracting an increased level of scholarship funding, by fostering the early discussion of research projects between applicants and prospective supervisors.
- Enhanced research training provision, realised through a new MSc in Research Methods in International Development as part of a successful School-wide initiative to compete for ESRC '1+3' scholarship funding, and leadership of the School-wide research training programme (**Hossain**, from 2019).

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Our new approach has increased our success in gaining competitive funding, with the proportion of students winning full ESRC scholarships doubling in this REF period compared to the last one. We have reduced our proportion of self-funded students to a situation where a majority of PGRs – 89% since 2016 – come with scholarship funding, which has in turn helped improve our completion rate. Since 2014, 136 PhD students have graduated in development studies at Manchester, compared with 96 in the previous period. Since 2016 we have professionalised PGR training with the provision of structured teaching-assistant training leading to associate membership of a professional body for teaching in higher education.

d. PGR development

GDI's Doctoral College seeks to create a sense of community among doctoral researchers. Every PGR is actively incorporated into one or more of GDI's research groups. Each new cohort of PGRs completes a week-long induction programme and each individual is assigned an existing doctoral student as a 'buddy' to help familiarise them with their new environment.

Supervision is clearly structured, with expectations set out at the beginning of the programme and half-yearly assessments of progress recorded on a University-wide information system (eProg). Annual reviews by a panel comprising supervisors, an Independent Reviewer and the Director/Deputy of the Doctoral College generate a formal record of comments and recommendations agreed by the PGR concerned.

All PGRs are provided with a dedicated workspace, computer and a range of high-quality IT services; they can apply for up to £1,000 of financial support for fieldwork abroad. A well-located common room is dedicated to this group.

All first-year PGRs must complete a research training programme spread across two semesters, including three SEED modules: Research Methodology and Design, Quantitative Methods and Qualitative Methods. PGRs access advanced research training provided by the Cathie Marsh Institute for Social Research and methods@manchester network.

PGRs are encouraged and enabled to become influential researchers, with funding to present their work at conferences and impact-related events. Supervisors and research groups actively support PGRs to publish high-quality work and our output return includes eight outputs produced or co-produced by our PGRs. In 2019, the College established a fund to support PGRs in sharing the findings of their work with key stakeholders after their viva. Practical support from GDI's Communications and Impact team has included training PGRs to establish and maintain personal webpages to make their research more visible.

Further research opportunities are provided through our funded research projects (e.g. organising conferences, contributing to research through literature reviews, involvement in workshops). Each year two GDI PhD students convene the weekly 'GDI Work-in-Progress' seminar series. Career development opportunities are also enabled through PGR involvement in teaching our 450(+)-strong annual cohorts of Master's students. All PGRs must complete an accredited teaching-assistant training programme and all can apply to be paid teaching assistants; since 2014, 94% of our PGRs have gained valuable teaching experience at GDI.

e. Equality and diversity

GDI has a deep commitment to equality and diversity. In the submission period, GDI has had three directors, two of whom have been women and two of black and minority ethnicity. Professors Uma Kothari, Diana Mitlin and Khalid Nadvi have taken on the leadership of GDI at the request of and with the support of their colleagues. In so doing they have enabled GDI to provide a substantive challenge to academic traditions, and catalysed contributions from

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many colleagues across the Institute. GDI has therefore sought to exemplify the changes that we recommend for others and made a significant contribution to the School's efforts to ensure that the principles of equality and diversity are strongly upheld, as reflected in the award of Athena Swan bronze status in 2017, and an ongoing plan to secure silver status.

All staff who sit on selection panels must undertake unconscious bias and E&D training. Of our 45 FTEs, 33% BAME and 31% are women. Since 2016, GDI has put forward a relatively higher proportion of female than male staff for promotion. Over this period, 11 women and 13 men were put forward, of whom eight women and nine men were successful.

	Contractual basis		Job status		Seniority		
	<i>T&R</i>	<i>T&S</i>	<i>Permanent appointment</i>	<i>Fixed-term appointment</i>	<i>Prof.</i>	<i>SL/Re.</i>	<i>Lect.</i>
All	45	11	47	9	16	20	20
Female	14	5	14	5	5	7	7
BAME	15	5	16	4	5	5	10

We actively monitor the embedding of E&D principles across our activities, ensuring a balance in research seminar speakers, with nominations for awards and recognition, and within interview short-lists. Mentors are carefully allocated, taking into consideration the need to provide appropriate support for staff.

The School provides a 'Women into Leadership' training programme that has now been taken up by UoM. The Hol encourages women to apply for these opportunities and for leadership programmes open to all. GDI has encouraged the School and the University to be more active in effectively engaging with issues of equality and diversity and to ensure that GDI provides a culture in which concerns about equality and diversity can be highlighted and addressed. For example, a recent analysis of workload data by gender and ethnicity was used to raise awareness of potential inequalities and inform future workload allocations. A new network for female staff in DS was established in 2019 to provide informal support, peer mentoring and a space to discuss challenges. In 2018, all female staff and PGRs were invited to a private meeting on gender equality and leadership with former prime minister of New Zealand and head of UNDP, Helen Clark, who was visiting to present GDI's annual lecture.

Section 3. Income, infrastructure and facilities

- **Research income**

GDI has secured £47,836,956 in research grants since 2013–14, a significant step change compared to the £14,054,967 awarded in the previous period. This dramatically improved performance flows from our ambitious strategy of maximising research income in relation to our areas of thematic expertise, and extending these towards new and more trans-disciplinary challenges. This success is broad-based across colleagues within this UoA: 72.9% of Cat A staff (35 out of the 47) secured external funding in the period, and of the 13 who didn't, seven have been hired since 2018.

In alignment with the School and Faculty's strategic objective of increasing research income from prestigious and competitive funding streams, the majority of our funding comes from UKRI/ESRC, the British Academy, the Leverhulme Trust and DFID. This portfolio includes a strategic blend of very large and medium-sized grants designed to tackle major development challenges; prestigious fellowships aimed at more in-depth and specific contributions to knowledge and impact; and networks to build partnerships in pursuit of future funding.

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Major grants won within this period, all of which were led by GDI staff unless stated otherwise, include:

- *African Cities*: £32.5million (FCDO, 2020–26): **Mitlin, Hickey, Schindler**.
- *FutureDAMS*: £8million (GCRF, 2018–21): **Hulme**, with **Lavers, Dimova** and Engineering.
- *ESID*: a £3.1million extension (DFID, 2016–19): **Hulme, Hickey, Sen**.
- *South-South Migration Hub*: £18.7million (GCRF, 2019–24): **Bastia, Bakewell** co-Is (UoM award value: c.£400,000).
- *Decent Work in Regional Value Chains*: £694K,000(ESRC–GCRF, 2019–21): **S Barrientos** PI, **Nadvi, Alford**.
- *Fairwork*: £688,000 (ESRC–GCRF, 2018–21): **Heeks** co-I.
- *Transnational Lived Citizenship: Political Belonging among Emerging Diasporas in the Horn of Africa*: £642,000 (ESRC, 2020–23): **Müller** PI, **Bakewell**.
- *Expanding Research to Understand Social Assistance*: £501,000 (ESRC–DFID, 2017-2019): **A Barrientos**.
- *The Politics of Building State Capacity in Africa*: £501,000 (ESRC–DFID, 2017-2020): **Hickey**.
- *Understanding Farmer-led Irrigation Development in Sub-Saharan Africa*: £360,000 (ESRC–DFID): **Woodhouse**.
- *Covid 19 and Wildlife Trade*: £380,000 (UKRI GCRF/Newton, 2020–22): **Enns** co-I.
- *Environmental Violence, Economic Development and the Everyday Livelihoods of Islanders*: £260,000 (ESRC-DFID, 2017-2020): **Kothari**.
- *Leverhulme Fellowships: The politics of distribution in Ethiopia*: 54,000, 2020–21: **Lavers**; *Ageing and migration*: £47,000, 2019–21: **Bastia**.
- *Networks: Mamman, Hossain, Rees* (EU, £252,000) on *Globalised Governance Norms and Local Management*; **Heeks** (ESRC, £150,000) on *Development Implications of Digital Economies Research Network*; **Mitlin** (Leverhulme, £125,000) on *Participatory Planning in Urban Africa*, and **Chimhowu** (ESRC-GCRF, £66,000) on *National Development Planning*.

This success reflects the robust nature of our peer review mechanisms, which are embedded within School and Faculty processes of quality assurance. The Research Director and Research Group conveners alert colleagues to funding opportunities and actively support grant preparation, especially through in-depth peer reviews, resourcing network building with research partners and a focus on developing robust impact strategies.

Research income has been leveraged to advance our strategic objectives. Three of the four impact case studies submitted to REF2021 flow from major awards (**Agarwal, S Barrientos, ESID**). External research funding has improved our research environment in multiple ways, enabling the recruitment of new staff, the provision of research assistantship opportunities for PGR and PGT students and funding for our regular flow of high-profile visiting speakers.

- **Infrastructure**

We receive administrative support through the Faculty's Research Support Services Hub, staffed by a team of three research support managers and six officers, an impact-support officer, grant writer and two finance officers. The team has expertise in all aspects of bid preparation, project management, dissemination and impact. More widely, we benefit from extensive University investment, including research-dedicated support for the University of Manchester library, designated a National Research Library (Section 4.2 of institutional

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statement). The library aids our research via a range of services, including support for publication and dissemination, training for research information management, and access to over 40,000 e-journals and a range of research databases. The library ensures Open Access compliance and offers funding for Gold Open Access publications. GDI has a dedicated section in the local library facility within one of our two co-located buildings on campus, which has over 10,000 print books on development studies.

The School's Director of Research chairs its Research Committee, which has overall oversight of research activity across the UoA. The Director of Research and GDI's Research Director jointly operate the Faculty's proactive system of peer review to support high-quality grant applications; this is mandatory for all bids relating to major research council calls, and strongly encouraged for all other funding applications. Peer review is also employed for outputs being prepared for journal submission or other publication outlets, including through the GDI Working Paper series. GDI participates fully in UoM's ethical approval process and is represented on both the School's and University's Research Ethics Committees, as governed by a University Code of Good Research Conduct (Section 2.5 of Institutional Statement). During this REF period, three GDI staff have been School Research Directors (**Hickey, Brockington, Nadvi**), underlining GDI's commitment to shaping a progressive research environment within the School.

The Faculty of Humanities Strategic Investment Fund (H-SIF) provides seed corn funding for the preparation of large and collaborative research grant applications and, for ECRs, to support first grant applications. Over 15 GDI researchers have secured H-SIF monies during the REF period and/or smaller grants from SEED's own Research and Impact Stimulation Fund, at a combined total of £82,000. GDI staff have also successfully bid for over £29,000 of funds from the University of Manchester Research Institute, which provides pump priming for new interdisciplinary activities and flagship research institutes.

The University has established a Committee to support bids to GCRF, with **Mitlin** and **Nadvi** as members. The University's bid for GCRF monies was co-authored by GDI staff and the resources secured have helped to develop trans-disciplinary research partnerships across the University and the Global South. For example, GDI has leveraged £40,000 to support the attendance of GS scholars at major international conferences (DSA2018, ESID2019) and also made successful bids for seven GCRF postgraduate fellowships for GS scholars.

- **Research impact**

Our dedication to promoting real-world impact through our research and policy uptake work was central to achieving institute status at UoM and to our strategic reorganisation since then. GDI colleagues and groups are strongly encouraged to maximise the impact of their research and offered high-level support to achieve this, most notably through the establishment of a dedicated **Communications and Impact Team** in 2016. This team works closely with the School's Knowledge Exchange and Impact Officer located within the Faculty's Research Support Services Hub, and has greatly enhanced the ability of GDI staff to ensure that their work moves beyond academia.

GDI's Communications and Impact Team has enabled us to place an even stronger emphasis on undertaking innovative and effective forms of knowledge exchange. The team comprises three full-time, permanent, research communication professionals, who work alongside another 2.5 FTEs on fixed-term contacts linked to large research projects. These staff members play a central role in ensuring that knowledge is effectively shared with policy actors, both during and after projects, enhancing the potential for uptake and impact. The

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specialist support provided by the team includes:

- development of strategic communications and impact strategies and activity plans for specific research projects;
- ongoing training and support for research communication, dissemination, engagement and influencing policy;
- access to key digital communication channels (including social media);
- additional funding for high-impact activities.

The team works directly with funded research centres, including ESID and African Cities, and individuals to enhance their engagement strategies. One indicator of its success has been the rapid increase of GDI academics featured in news stories, which rose from 25 in 2015–16 to 39 in 2016–17 and 78 in 2017–18, involving pieces for the BBC, *Economist*, *Financial Times*, ABC News, *Times of India*, *New York Times*, *USA Today*, the *Guardian*, *El Pais*, *Prospect* and the *New Statesman*. The team has encouraged staff to experiment with innovative methods of reaching new audiences. Examples include a film documentary about a street-theatre performance on climate change that **J Jordan** directed in Dhaka (over 100,000 people viewed the documentary, which earned awards from UoM, AHRC and the US–UK Fulbright Commission) and the co-production of a play on migration and belonging at Manchester’s Contact Theatre in 2017, a sold-out multi-media production led by **Müller** via the Migration Lab.

Since 2014, three new forms of financial support have assisted our impact work: a Faculty-level investment fund, a responsive fund for opportunistic impact work at School level, and a £20,000 pa dedicated communications and impact budget for the sole use of GDI staff. GDI staff have also secured £179,000 for ESRC Impact Acceleration Activities between 2014 and 2020, plus £100,000 for an ESRC–DFID Follow-on Impact grant (**Kothari**). GDI’s focus on impact has become further institutionalised through revisions to Manchester’s promotion and staff review processes, placing a stronger emphasis on knowledge exchange. As School Research Director, **Hickey** integrated a stronger focus on knowledge exchange activities within the Faculty’s annual review form and introduced a new category of Knowledge Exchange Visiting and Honorary Fellows.

Research findings are communicated via numerous dissemination channels, including 3,500 email subscribers, 13,500 Facebook and 12,000 Twitter followers, and a blog that attracts over 3,000 viewers per month. Recent innovations include the widely available GDI podcast, five-minute video lectures explaining key development concepts and issues, and many conversations with leading figures in the field recorded during visits to GDI. GDI actively engages its alumni to share our research, with 7,500 regular email contacts on our database, many of who work in influential development-related positions in the civil service, politics, NGOs and international organisations.

This intensified focus on impact is reflected in the depth and diversity of our four impact case studies, which come from staff at all career stages, with equal gender representation and with strong BAME representation in three of the four cases. The cases, chosen from a wider group through a process of internal and external peer review, show how GDI colleagues have achieved extensive impacts across the full range of development actors – major private corporations, local women’s groups, international development agencies, national and local governments – and also policy domains, including gender equity, globalisation, corporate social responsibility, health, growth, governance, social protection and agriculture. Beyond

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the four impact cases submitted, every research group has been highly active in the realm of knowledge exchange, as reported in Section 4.

Since 2014, for example, GDI has built further on its established expertise concerning how NGOs can promote transformative development goals to inform radical shifts in development funding, policy and outcomes. This has underpinned two main areas of impact. First, GDI research and policy engagement activities undertaken by **Banks** directly influenced the Dutch government's new NGO-funding framework to take a much more political focus. Banks' work helped generate a new policy framework allocating €925million to improving the capacities of Dutch and Southern NGOs to lobby for marginalised groups. This in turn has provided support to 30,083 organisations in over 60 countries, led to the implementation of 2,870 laws, policies or norms and directly catalysed positive social and political change. Second, **Mitlin's** research and advisory work with Slum Dwellers International (SDI) has strengthened the capacity of local housing movements in Kenya and Zimbabwe to promote development alternatives, persuaded local governments to invest in improved infrastructure within informal settlements and prevented illegal evictions. New work in Nairobi has focused on community-driven mapping exercises of informal settlements to inform the government's response to Covid-19. This important work will be further nurtured and developed, including for the purposes of any future REF exercise.

The focus, culture and practical support for promoting impact has advanced significantly in this REF period, and will be further deepened and extended in the next one. Work is ongoing to extend the quality and reach of GDI's key communications channels, designed to maximise engagement with our research insights and boost the influence of our researchers. Alongside these efforts to ensure our work is widely recognised beyond academia, we are investing further in a long-term relational approach to cultivating impact. This prioritises building ongoing partnerships and collaborations with key individuals and organisations, including with NGOs in the Global South such as SDI and BRAC (see below). Through these partnerships we gain the opportunity to maximise the relevance of our research, create a platform for substantive change and enable ourselves and our research partners to take advantage of opportunities as they present themselves. Broader lessons from any impacts we achieve can then be communicated widely, creating a virtuous circle of increasing awareness, influence and impact.

Our enduring partnerships with BRAC and SDI reflect our commitment to both relevance and the co-production of knowledge. Our almost 30-year relationship with BRAC and BRAC University in Bangladesh (thanks to **Hulme's** CPRC network, **Sen's** work with ESID and **Banks'** work on NGOs) remains active. For example, **Banks** and **Hulme** worked closely with BRAC in April–May 2020 in support of their response to Covid-19. GDI staff have a longstanding collaboration with SDI that is founded on the co-production of knowledge and commitment to impactful research. A Leverhulme-funded action research network led by **Mitlin** on *Participatory Planning in Urban Africa* involves SDI affiliates, NGO support agencies and academics from the universities in Bulawayo, Johannesburg and Nairobi jointly developing community-led approaches to upgrading in these three cities. **Gillespie** has worked with the SDI affiliate in Ghana on housing and **Mitlin** worked with SDI affiliates in India and Uganda to understand the influence of civil society on government poverty-reduction programming. **Mitlin's** ESRC IAA grant supports work with SDI's affiliate in Kenya and UN-Habitat to promote informal settlement upgrading in Nairobi. In line with our strategic objective of working across North–South boundaries, we have forged collaborations between SDI and community-based organisations in greater Manchester to share strategies related to community voice and urban redevelopment. Three GDI PGRs have undertaken research into

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SDI since 2014, with results fed back into SDI's strategic development. From March 2020, **Mitlin** has worked closely with SDI in support of their response to Covid-19 in Nairobi. In July 2020, SDI became a key partner within GDI's major new research consortium on African Cities.

Section 4. Collaboration and contribution to the discipline or research base

GDI has sought to make major contributions to development studies in this period, including through our extensive range of academic and non-academic collaborations, strong support for the Development Studies Association and leadership roles within leading journals, research councils and funding bodies.

a. Research collaborations, networks and partnerships

Building extensive collaborations with centres of excellence in the Global South and North is central to delivering our research and impact strategies and to the sustainability of our work. Below we list a selection of the major partnerships that enable us to deliver on our seven core research themes.

- **ACPE**: the **FutureDAMS** research programme includes the Universities of Cambridge, Surrey, Newcastle, Southampton and UCL, IIED and IWMI, along with a network of researchers in Ghana, Myanmar, Jordan and India. **Woodhouse's** ESRC grant on irrigation was delivered in partnership with the Instituto Superior Politécnico de Manica (Mozambique) and the Nelson Mandela African Institution of Science and Technology (Tanzania).
- **Digital Development**: DD is a leading member of 'ICT4D North', a network of around 100 academic staff, and early-career and doctoral researchers across 12 Northern UK universities. **Foster** was Visiting Fellow at the Fudan Development Institute, Shanghai.
- **G&D** researchers have helped strengthen the capacity of researchers at universities in Accra, Cape Town, Delhi, Dhaka, Kampala, Dar es Salaam, Nairobi, Abidjan, Addis Ababa, Maputo and Kigali. **Tambupolon** works in partnership with Bloomberg School of Public Health at Johns Hopkins University. Work on institutions was deepened through the visit of Professor Ira Gang (Rutgers) in 2017–18. **Savoia** has been Senior Non-Resident Fellow at UNU-WIDER since January 2020.
- **GPNTL**: the ESRC-funded Rising Powers Network included ISS (Rotterdam), the University of Sao Paulo, the Institute of Applied Economics in Brazil, City University Hong Kong, and the Gujarat Institute of Development Research. The GCRF project on regional value chains and decent work involves the Universities of Cape Town, Nairobi and Johannesburg. The group's work was further supported by the visit of Professor Subramanian from Madras IDS in 2014–15, and Mark Dallas (Union College, US) in 2019. **Jepson** helped form and sits on the steering committee of the China in Europe Research Network, which operates across 36 countries.
- **MRA**: the ESRC South–South Migration Hub partners with SOAS and Queen Mary (London), Coventry, UNRISD, China Agricultural University and the Universities of Cape Town, Addis Ababa, Ghana, Beijing and Ouagadougou. The ESRC Transnational Lived Citizenship centre works with the University of Khartoum, the African Migration and Development Policy Centre (Nairobi), and OSSREA (Addis Ababa). The EUTF Research and Evidence Facility collaborates with SOAS, Makerere University, the Rift Valley Institute and Sahan Research (both Nairobi).
- **PGD**: **ESID** has research partners in Bangladesh, Ghana, India, Malawi, Rwanda, South Africa, Uganda and the US, plus Sussex, Oxford, Barcelona and ODI.

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ESID/ESRC work on state capacity partners with Harvard, Oxford and the German Development Institute, and has helped establish GDI as a global hub on development politics. The EU-funded ManaGlobal project has established a new network with scholars from Africa, Middle East and Europe.

- **Urban Futures:** important collaborations include those with the Middle East Technical University, the Universities of Dar es Salaam, Cape Town, and of Science and Technology in Namibia, Cornell University, and Leverhulme-funded links with the National University of Science and Technology (Bulawayo) and Universities of Johannesburg and Nairobi, as well as SDI. African Cities partners with ODI, IIED, the Partnership for African Social and Governance Research, Liverpool STHM, IRC and ICLEI-Africa.

The global reputation and reach of GDI, with over 10,000 alumni in more than 120 countries, further enables our collaborative efforts.

b. Relationships with key non-academic audiences and wider contribution to economy and society

Achieving impact is central to GDI's mission and we work extensively with a diverse range of non-academic audiences to achieve this. We list the key knowledge exchange and impact activities undertaken by each research group here.

- **ACPE** has directly influenced policy and outcomes, including the extension of women's group farming in India (**Agarwal's** ICS). **Woodhouse's** ESRC research was a major contributor to the African Union's *Framework for Irrigation Development and Agricultural Water Management* (May 2020). His 2017 paper is cited in the framework and 'Farmer-led Irrigation Development' is the second of four pathways through which irrigation is to be promoted by AU member states. **Bebbington's** funded research on civil society, extractive industries and sustainable development has directly influenced the Ford Foundation's new \$300million strategy on natural resource governance and climate change. This has catalysed new programmes of support to civil society organisations working to promote sustainable development with community organisations and regional networks across the Global South, and directly influenced initiatives at the multi-stakeholder New York Declaration on Forests, Norwegian aid and several major foundations. **Bebbington** also served as one of eight members of the Inter-American Development Bank's Expert Advisory Panel on the Bank's new Environmental and Social Policy Framework and was appointed as a Director of Oxfam America (2016–present). **FutureDAMS** is working alongside river basin managers in Ghana, Ethiopia and Myanmar to improve the operation of existing dams and the selection of new projects.
- **DDG: Foster** provided inputs for UNCTAD's *World Investment Report* 2017 on the digital economy and its *Information Economy Reports* 2017, 2019 and 2020. **Heeks** provided conceptual and empirical inputs on emerging digital inequalities as an Advisory Panel member for the 2016 *World Development Report: Digital Dividends* and his ESRC–GIZ-funded work has informed the rating and certification processes designed to improve decent work standards for gig economy workers in South Africa and India.
- **G&D** research and engagement has reshaped DFID's approach to economic development (ESID ICS) and directly informed the European Commission's and OECD's work on reaching the SDGs (**Savoia**). **Tampubolon's** SMARThealth project (ICS) has transformed the life chances of millions of people in Indonesia. The Social

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Assistance Explorer (**A Barrientos**) has generated increased support for social assistance among international and national policy actors and work by **Hickey** and **Lavers** on the politics of social protection has directly shaped the policy documents and strategic approaches of several major development agencies (e.g. DFID, World Bank, UNICEF, WFP).

- **GPNTL** members engage actively with ILO, UNIDO, UNCTAD, IADB, WTO, DFID and a wide range of international nongovernmental organisations, multinational corporations and workers' cooperatives/unions. **S Barrientos** has helped set in place new industry standards and directly changed the ways in which major companies treat their female workers (ICS). **Krishnan** contributed a background paper to the 2020 World Bank *World Development Report* and helped design the UNFSS's Voluntary Sustainability Standards Toolkit.
- **MRA: Bakewell** is a Key Expert on Migration and Development for the EU Trust Fund for Africa. EUTF is frequently invited to share its findings with government officials and EU delegations across the Horn of Africa, and connects regularly with IGAD, UNHCR and a broad network of NGOs and think-tanks working on migration and refugees in the region. **Kothari's** photo exhibition depicting the challenges faced by local communities in the Maldives raised the profile of environmental degradation and significantly built the capacity of communities to raise concerns with government and propose locally driven solutions.
- **PGM** research via ESID has directly shaped DFID's new governance strategies in Uganda and Rwanda, informed World Bank reports, influenced the Government of Uganda's National Development Plan (2015–20) and informed OECD's approach to SDG 16 (ICS). **Banks'** work on NGOs has changed the funding policies of the Dutch government towards civil society and the NGO Explorer tool is helping to facilitate greater cooperation between UK NGOs. **Chimhowu** is working with the OECD to improve their understanding of the critical role played by national development planning.
- **UF: Mitlin** has advised the World Resources Institute on their equitable cities programme, and co-authored WRI reports. **Gillespie** is working with Greater Manchester Housing Action to improve housing options in the city and has worked with housing campaigners to support homeless people in London. **Mitlin** is sharing community-organising strategies from the Global South with women leaders in low-income neighbourhoods in Manchester; this has resulted in over four new Manchester-based savings groups and the formation of a UK charity to advance this work.

c. Contribution to sustainability of the discipline and research base

Development Studies Association: GDI staff contribute extensively to debates on the sustainability and future of the discipline, both nationally and internationally. GDI has played a central role in supporting and leading the DSA. **Hulme** and then **Hickey** were elected as DSA presidents (2014–17 and 2020–23, respectively) and other colleagues have served as Council members over extended periods, including **Kothari** (2014–20) and **Sen** (2008–14). GDI hosted the DSA's 50th Anniversary Annual Conference in 2018, and **Bastia**, **Behuria** and **Horner** have and/or do co-convene DSA Study Groups. We are active within the European Association of Development Research and Training Institute (EADI), with **Kothari** re-elected for a second term as vice-president in 2020, and **C Jordan** (Head of GDI's communications and impact team) co-chairing its research communications working group.

GDI staff also support other learned societies. **Agarwal** was president of the International

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Society for Ecological Economics, and is also an international member of Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei (Italy) and appointed fellow of the Indian Association for Agricultural Economics. **Bebbington** chairs the membership panel (Geography, Sociology, Demography) for election to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. **Sen** is a member of the South Asia Area Panel of the British Academy. **Kothari** is Chair of the 2020 RGS–IBG annual international conference and **Horner** co-convenes the Global Value Chains Network of the Society for the Advancement of Socio-Economics.

Academic journals: GDI has hosted the leading development studies journal in the UK, the **Journal of Development Studies**, since 2010, with **Woodhouse** as a Managing Editor (2016–20), **Müller** as Reviews Editor and both **Sen** and **Fielding** as board members. Other full editorships of key journals include *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* (**Bebbington**); *European Journal of Development Research* (**Dimova**); *Environment and Urbanization* (**Mitlin**); *Conservation and Society, Environment and Society and Environmental Conservation* (**Woodhouse**); *Information Technology for Development* (**Heeks**) and *World Development* (**Bebbington**). Overall, 19 GDI colleagues sit on the editorial boards of over 50 academic journals.

Research councils and funding bodies: GDI scholars help set the research agenda for development studies through their leadership and review roles for numerous research council and funding bodies. **Mitlin** has been Deputy Chair of the ESRC's research committee (2016–18), deputy chair of the ESRC's Expert Advisory Group for International Development (2017–ongoing), Chair of the ESRC's Grants Delivery Group (2016–18) and also chaired the ESRC's grant-allocating panels in 2015 and 2018. **A Barrientos, Hickey, Kothari, Nadvi, Sen** and **Woodhouse** are members of the ESRC Peer Review College and **Hickey** was a member of the ESRC Knowledge Transfer Team. **Kothari** was a member of the Going Global Steering Committee, British Council.

Beyond the UK, **Banks** chairs the International Advisory Committee for the civil society research programme financed by the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and **Hickey** chairs the development studies panel of the Swedish Research Council. **Kothari** and **Müller** are programme committee members of the NORGLOBAL-2 initiative of the Research Council of Norway.

International conferences: GDI staff have organised major conferences throughout this REF period, bringing together diverse academic and policy actors from the Global North and South and advancing new intellectual agendas. In June 2018, GDI helped the DSA mark its 40th anniversary by hosting and organising its Annual Conference on the theme of 'Global Inequalities'. Over 550 participants attended, with GDI securing funding for 90 delegates from the Global South. Other notable gatherings include ESID's international conference 'From Politics to Power? Rethinking the Politics of Development' (September 2019, 200 participants), which led to a synthesis manuscript being submitted to OUP; 'Scaling up Participatory Planning' (June 2019); 'Global Development' (2017), which directly shaped a special issue of *Development and Change*; 'World on the Move: Migration, Societies and Change' (Oct–Nov 2017); 'Rising Powers and Integrated Futures' (July 2017) and JDS's 50th anniversary conference in July 2015. Several funded workshops have led directly to special editions of journals, including on 'Institutions' (*JDS*, 2016), and 'Global production networks and new contours of development' (*Global Networks*, 2015), which established a new agenda on polycentric trade.

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Awards: **Hulme** received an OBE in 2020 for his service to development studies and was appointed Member of Academic Europea in 2015. **Agarwal** was awarded Agropolis Louis Malassis International Scientific Prize for an 'Outstanding Career in Agricultural Development' and the Balzan Prize for ground-breaking research into women's contributions to agriculture in India (both 2017), and Order of Agricultural Merit (Officer), Government of France, 2016. **Bebbington** was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and awarded 'Distinguished Scholarship Honors' by the American Association of Geographers and the John Simon Guggenheim Fellowship, all in 2015; he was also Global Chair at the University of Bath (2018–19) and Australian Research Council Laureate Fellow (2017–19). **Kothari** received the RGS–IBG Busk Medal in 2014.

The activities and achievements recorded here, and the significant contribution we hope that they have made to our field, offer testimony to the vitality of our research environment. Over the same period, our significantly enhanced record of attracting major research funding and the highest quality early career researchers, restructuring around new knowledge frontiers, and well-resourced commitment to delivering research excellence and impact through long-term partnerships, all underline its durability.