Symposium welcome

Dear friends and colleagues

It is our absolute pleasure to welcome you to Bristol, and to the University of Bristol, for this global challenges symposium.

The world’s most pressing challenges are complex and multidisciplinary, requiring a radically more joined-up approach to delivering research. Through our cross-faculty University Institutes, our thematic research clusters, and our existing relationships with partners around the world, Bristol is committed to fostering a truly collaborative approach to impactful research.

We would like to encourage you to use this occasion to engage with challenges, disciplines, and approaches which may be outside of your immediate expertise. We are sure that you will have many opportunities to share your experience and contribute ideas; we hope you will be inspired to explore potential collaborations and develop new partnerships with other delegates.

We are pleased to be able to provide seed-corn funding for those working in partnership with the University of Bristol to follow up on ideas developed at this event. Details of this are included in your delegate pack, and further information will be shared with you after the symposium.

Thank you for your attendance and for your valued contributions. We hope you enjoy the symposium, and that you emerge from it enthused and energised for the challenges that lie ahead for us all.

With warm wishes,
The symposium organising committee
Bristol was named European Green Capital in 2015, a Rockefeller Resilient City in 2016, UNESCO City of Film in 2017, houses a Global #1 business incubator, and overtook London as the UK’s leading ‘smart city’, according to the second UK Smart Cities Index in 2017.

Many of these awards have been made based not only on the contributions of the keystone organisations within the city, but also thanks to Bristol’s significant grass-roots movements, which have defined its vibrant and collaborative approach to changemaking.

Hallmarks of these movements can be seen throughout the city in its graffiti and arts, and felt through an exciting programme of cultural and community activities. Local institutions like the Festival of Ideas also continue to challenge and stimulate people’s minds and passions with an inspiring programme of debate throughout the year.

We hope that you are able to experience some of Bristol’s sights during your stay, and recommend the Visit Bristol website for suggestions and advice.

Nearby attractions include:
- Brunel’s SS Great Britain
- Clifton Suspension Bridge
- Cabot Tower and Brandon Hill, for views of the city
- Royal West of England Academy, art gallery
- We the curious, interactive science centre
- Banksy street art walking tour

Registration
Registration takes place from 10 – 11am on Wednesday 11 April in the main reception area of the Victoria Rooms. The first session then begins at 11am.

Refreshments
Lunch and refreshments will be served in the Victoria Rooms on all three days, as set out in the programme.

Symposium buffet
On Thursday 12 April, for delegates that have purchased a ticket, a symposium buffet will be provided by 91 Ways - a local social enterprise that works to unite Bristol’s 91 diverse language communities through food. This will be held in the main auditorium of the Victoria Rooms.

Contacts
You can get in touch with us before, during, and after the conference by emailing gcsymposium-2018@bristol.ac.uk.

If you have any questions during the event, or if we can help you in any way, please speak to one of the organising team, who will be wearing yellow name badges.
### Wednesday 11 April

<table>
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<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>10 – 11am</td>
<td>Registration</td>
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| 11am – 12.30pm | **Symposium welcome**  
Professor Nishan Canagarajah,  
Pro-Vice Chancellor, Research |
| 12.30 – 1.30pm | Lunch                                                                         |
| 1.30 – 2.30pm | Initial group discussions                                                   |
| 2.30 – 5.30pm | **Global Health 1: Partnerships and interdisciplinarity in research** (Room G12) |
|            | **Mobility and Migration** (Victoria’s Room)                                |
| 5.30 – 7pm   | Drinks reception                                                           |
| Evening     | Delegates settle into hotels, free evening in Bristol                      |

### Thursday 12 April

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<td>9am – 12pm</td>
<td>Parallel sessions:</td>
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<td><strong>Conflict and Development (1)</strong> (Victoria’s Room)</td>
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<td><strong>Energy access in rural areas</strong> (Albert Room)</td>
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<td>12 – 1pm</td>
<td><strong>Global Health 2: Delivering impact</strong> (Room G12)</td>
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<td>1 - 2pm</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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<td>2 – 5pm</td>
<td><strong>GCRF: Funders’ perspectives</strong> with representatives from UK research funders</td>
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<tr>
<td>5 – 6pm</td>
<td>Parallel sessions:</td>
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<td><strong>Conflict and development (2)</strong> (Victoria’s Room)</td>
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<td>6 – 8pm</td>
<td><strong>Poverty</strong> (Room G12)</td>
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| 7.30 – 9pm | Buffet dinner with 91 Ways to Build a Global City, including prizegiving for winners of the Jean Golding Institute’s global farming data competition  
Optional screening of documentary, ‘The destruction of memory’, followed by a discussion with director Tim Slade |
Friday 13 April

Global Challenges at Bristol

9am – 12pm
Parallel sessions:
- **Food security: Living off the land** (Room G12)
- **Natural Hazards** (Victoria’s Room)

12 – 2pm
Lunch and project formation

2 – 3pm
Closing plenary

3pm
Symposium closes

3 – 5pm
Optional tour of the University’s Wills Memorial Building Tower (supplementary cost of £4)

From conflict to climate change, and from the threat of antimicrobial resistance to educational inequality, the most pressing problems facing the world today are increasingly complex and interlinked – requiring a truly joined-up approach to delivering research with real value.

That’s why our challenge-focused research is rooted firmly in interdisciplinary collaboration, working together with partners, policymakers, and local communities across the globe.

Within Bristol, our four University Research Institutes – focusing on environmental change, health, data science, and living well – draw together thematic research, harnessing both the depth and breadth of our expertise, and ensuring our approach is truly multidisciplinary.

Find out more about our Institutes at **bristol.ac.uk/research/institutes**

Our research impact

Global challenge research at Bristol is about working with our partners to develop real answers to real problems.

From mapping educational inequalities in Latin America to helping Nepalese communities become more resilient to earthquakes, we’re striving to translate research into impact and bring about positive change in the world.

Read all our impact stories at **bristol.ac.uk/research/impact**
About GCRF

The Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF) is a five-year £1.5Bn fund, and a key component in the delivery of the UK Aid Strategy: tackling global challenges in the national interest.

The fund aims to ensure that UK research takes a leading role in addressing the problems faced by developing countries through:

- challenge-led disciplinary and interdisciplinary research;
- strengthening capacity for research and innovation within both the UK and developing countries;
- providing an agile response to emergencies where there is an urgent research need.

GCRF is led by the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) which operates across a number of delivery partners, including the UK Research Councils, UK Higher Education Funding bodies, the Academy of Medical Sciences, Royal Society, British Academy, the Royal Academy of Engineering, and UK Space Agency.

GCRF forms part of the UK’s Official Development Assistance (ODA) commitment, which is monitored by the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD). ODA-funded activity focuses on outcomes that promote the long-term sustainable growth of countries on the OECD Development Assistance Committee list; as such, GCRF funding will be awarded in a manner that fits with Official ODA guidelines.

Find out more from the UK Research and Innovation website

Stay connected

bristol.ac.uk/research/global-challenges

Keep in touch

e-mail: rd-international@bristol.ac.uk

Join the conversation on Twitter

@BristolUni
#GlobalChallengesBristol