INTERNATIONAL AND DEVELOPMENT AID FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Dr Don McMaster, Research Branch

Life Impact The University of Adelaide
Sponsors providing funding opportunities:

1. AusAID
2. The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation
3. US Department of Defense
4. US National Science Foundation
5. American Association for Laboratory Animal Science - AALAS
AUSAID SCHEMES:

- AusAID Development Research Awards Scheme (ADRAS)
- International Seminar Support Scheme (ISSS)
- Australia Awards Fellowships
- Government Partnerships for Development facility (GPFD)

• Looking to develop partnerships more with Australian Universities
• Asia Pacific remains front and centre focus (with some expansion to Africa and South Asia)
• Country and regional / sector programs hold the big budgets
• Research Section - administrative and guiding role; looking to increase competitive process and reduce duplication.
• Looking to double amount of research funding awarded through competitive processes by 2015-16 (up to 30% of the pie)
• Research partnerships are also critical avenues for research. - engagement with the ARC and NHMRC, alliance with CSIRO, increase investment ACIAR
...Research Strategy 2012 – 2016

• ...probably growth in synthesis work
• Capacity building in partner countries is critical in project design
• Effectiveness of research is key consideration in proposal design - i.e.: what will change as a result of the research? (...and in what specific community?)
• Research should align with one or more broad research priorities: saving lives, promoting opportunities for all, sustainable economic development, effective governance, humanitarian and disaster response
• Research funding channels: competitive grants (eg ADRAS), direct grants, commissioning, and partnerships (the lion’s share)
**ADRAS: Summary of the features**

- **ADRAS does not fund**
  - Biomedical or dental research
  - Product development
  - Organisational linkages (except for capacity building)
  - Conferences (hosting, organising, attending) – or travel to...
  - Publications
  - Consultancy fees
  - Masters/PhD projects (unless integral to a proposed project)

- **Funding**
  - A$200K-A$400K pa for up to 3 years
  - Co-funding encouraged (and given preference)
  - Budget: direct costs of research (incl. Researcher salaries); communication & engagement; capacity building
International Seminar Support Scheme (ISSS)

ISSS funds attendance at international development-oriented seminars in Australia and overseas.

The scheme helps to develop knowledge and technical expertise in developing countries, and builds linkages between the government, academic and community sectors in Australia and our partner developing countries. Funds are limited and competition is strong. Applications need to provide a convincing case for support, with clear objectives and details of how they will be achieved. Successful applications must demonstrate tangible outcomes and practical contributions to the economic development/social advancement of developing countries.

**Note:** Applications can only be made by the seminar organiser.

Applications for the 2013/14 financial are being accepted.

Australia Awards

The Australia Awards aim to promote knowledge, education links and enduring ties between Australia and our neighbours through Australia's extensive scholarship programs.

Key dates:

Australia Awards Scholarships:
Opening dates for the 2014 Round vary for country

Australia Awards Fellowships: Applications for the 2014 Round will open on 13 May and close on 19 June 2013

DIICCSRTE Endeavour Awards: 2014 Round Applications for the 2014 Round will open on 1 April and close on 30 June 2013

http://www.australiaawards.gov.au
Government Partnerships for Development (GPFD)

- The GPFD will facilitate partnerships in support of Australia’s official development assistance (ODA) objectives between Australian public sector organisations—Commonwealth, state and territory government agencies and public universities—and their counterparts in Australian ODA-recipient partner countries.
- Under the GPFD, funding will be provided through an annual competitive funding process to eligible Australian public sector organisations. The first funding round opened in February 2013 and has closed.
- Activities funded through the GPFD facility must have a focus on addressing poverty and assisting the economic development and welfare of the partner country and may include internships and placements, training workshops, twinning arrangements and policy research.
- The GPFD will fund either single large or strategically bundled smaller activities with a minimum total grant to an agency or university of $1 million and a maximum of $4 million over the life of the activity. In total the activity may run for up to three years.

GATES FOUNDATION

Focus of Gates Foundation Grant making

• To invest resources most responsibly, the foundation begins by asking:
  • What affects the most people?
  • What has been neglected?
  • Where can the greatest change be made?
  • How to harness innovative solutions and technologies?
  • How does the work partner with experts, governments, and businesses?

The Gates Foundation looks for projects that:

• Produce measurable results
• Use preventive approaches
• Promise significant and long-lasting change
• Leverage support from other sources
• Accelerate work the foundation already supports

http://www.gatesfoundation.org/grantseeker/Pages/foundation-grant-making-priorities.aspx
US DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE: DoD

Opportunities are announced through a Broad Agency Announcement (BAA), which is a competitive solicitation procedure used to obtain proposals for basic and applied research and that part of development not related to the development of a specific system or hardware procurement.

The type of research solicited under a BAA attempts to increase knowledge in science and/or to advance the state of the art as compared to practical application of knowledge.
DOD Web Sites

Office of Naval Research:  http://www.onr.navy.mil/

Air Force Research Laboratory:  http://www.wpafb.af.mil/afrl/
AFOSR:  http://www.wpafb.af.mil/afrl/afosr/

Army Research Laboratory:  http://www.arl.army.mil/www/default.cfm
US National Science Foundation - NSF

- NSF is the only US federal agency whose mission includes support for all fields of fundamental science and engineering, except for medical sciences.
- The NSF is tasked with keeping the US at the leading edge of discovery in areas from astronomy to geology to zoology.
- In addition to funding research in the traditional academic areas, the agency also supports "high-risk, high pay-off" ideas and novel collaborations.
- The NSF ensure that research is fully integrated with education so that today's revolutionary work will also be training tomorrow's top scientists and engineers.
NSF: Directorate for Biological Sciences

- The Directorate for Biological Sciences supports research to advance understanding of the principles and mechanisms governing life. Research studies extend across systems that encompass biological molecules, cells, tissues, organs, organisms, populations, communities, and ecosystems up to and including the global biosphere.

- [http://www.nsf.gov/bio/about.jsp](http://www.nsf.gov/bio/about.jsp)

- Where to find current NSF funding opportunities:

American Association for Laboratory Animal Science - AALAS

- The AALAS Foundation is an advocate for laboratory animal science and research. The future of the profession and biomedical science depends on promoting the benefits of biomedical research through public outreach and ensuring that high-quality training, education programs and materials are available for those working in the profession of laboratory animal science.

- The mission of the AALAS Grants for Laboratory Animal Science (GLAS) Program is to enhance scientific knowledge in laboratory animal health and welfare through research, and to further promote collaborative efforts by the AALAS membership within the broader scientific community. The Scientific Advisory Committee oversees this program.
AALAS continued: The GLAS Program

- The GLAS Program provides competitive short-term research grants in the laboratory animal science field. Current AALAS members are invited to apply for one-year grants of up to US$50,000 (Standard Grant) or US$7,500 (Small Grant).

- The principal investigator (PI) must be an AALAS member but Co-PIs need not be members. PIs are strongly encouraged to include collaboration with a research scientist in their proposals.

- Examples of research interest are as follows: environmental conditions; housing and enrichment; pain and distress; health and welfare; euthanasia; and, advancements in animal care and use.

- The grant submission deadline is 11:59 pm February 1 of each year, and notifications of GLAS grant awards are sent by April 30.

- [http://www.aalas.org/glas/index.htm](http://www.aalas.org/glas/index.htm)
Research Branch Contacts

Dr Don McMaster  
ph: 8313 3347  
don.mcmaster@adelaide.edu.au

Research Branch Support and Resources

- Research Branch Bulletin/Web site  
  http://www.adelaide.edu.au/rb/  
- Access to ‘Library’ of successful applications/projects