



Making science work for development

**Independent Member of the HMG Strategic Coherence of ODA-funded
Research (SCOR) Board**

Information pack for applicants

Closing date for applications: 2nd of March 2018

Applications processed by the UK Collaborative on Development Sciences

c/o The Wellcome Trust, Gibbs Building, 215 Euston Road, London NW1 2BE

www.ukcds.org.uk

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Making an Application

Thank you for your interest in becoming an independent member of the HMG Strategic Coherence of ODA-funded Research (SCOR) Board. This document provides details on the role of the independent member and the person specification, the role and responsibilities of SCOR and the selection process.

To make an application please send a supporting letter and your CV to the address below:

Email to: infouk-cds@ukcds.org.uk quoting reference 'SCOR Independent Member Application'

OR

Post to: **UK Collaborative on Development Sciences**

c/o The Wellcome Trust, Gibbs Building, 215 Euston Road, London NW1 2BE

All applications will be acknowledged by email after the closing date.

a. Indicative Timetable for applications

Closing date: 2nd March 2018

Interviews held: Week commencing 12th of March 2018

b. Key facts about the post

Remuneration: Membership is not remunerated, except for reasonable travel and subsistence costs relating to authorised SCOR Board business.

Time commitment: Minimum of four 2-hour meetings per year, availability may be required on an ad hoc basis.

Location: The SCOR Board meets in central London, generally at Wellcome's offices (215 Euston Road). Substitutes are not accepted.

Tenure of office: The length of appointment is until 31 October 2020 unless terminated before that date (with a 3 months' notice period required for either party).

Accountability: Members of the SCOR Board are accountable to the SCOR Board Chair for carrying out their duties and for their performance.

c. Contacts



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For further information regarding the selection process, or regarding the role of SCOR and the role of independent members, please contact:

Dr Marta Tufet, UKCDS Executive Director
Telephone: +44 (0)20 7611 8305
M.Tufet@ukcds.org.uk

Please quote reference 'SCOR Independent Member Application' on all correspondence.

d. Conflict of interests

If you have any business or personal interests that might be relevant to the work of UKCDS and which could lead to a real or perceived conflict of interest were you to be appointed, please provide details in your supporting letter. If appointed, you will be required to declare all interests that could give rise to potential conflicts within one month of your start date and to the SCOR Secretariat every 6 months. This would include any HMG funds you receive or are planning to bid for or any other engagement with HMG you may have. All disclosed interests will be noted on the Register of Interests maintained by the SCOR Board secretariat. Access to your disclosures will be restricted to those who need it for the purposes of this policy. Failure to disclose such information could result in an appointment being terminated.

SCOR Board Role and Responsibilities

a. Creation of the Strategic Coherence of ODA-funded Research (SCOR) Board

The SCOR Board is a newly formed mechanism that aims to provide strategic coherence of the UK's investment in science and research for international development. It draws upon the complementary skills and perspectives of key government departments and major funders of research for international development to ensure the UK has a comprehensive offer and maximises the impact of its investments, particularly in view of recent significant uplift of ODA funding for research. It is supported by the UK Collaborative on Development Sciences (UKCDS), a membership organisation bringing together 7 UK government Departments, 6 research Councils and the Wellcome Trust.

b. SCOR Board Core Strategic Aims

- Build high-level coherence across all significant Government ODA-funded science and research to ensure the UK has comprehensive offer on science and research for development.
- Maximise the impact and relevance of the UK's ODA expenditure on science and research for development.

- Develop a shared vision for ODA-funded science and research for development that includes building a coherent approach to applying ODA principles.

c. SCOR Board Core Functions

To provide coherence and inform senior-level decisions on strategic prioritisation of cross-cutting research areas of interest across the Government ODA-funded science and research funds. This includes:

- Identifying synergies and new opportunities for joint-working;
- Identifying strategic gaps that require new research;
- Reducing risk of duplication across the different funds;
- Maximising opportunities for leverage funding;
- Ensuring value for money on research for development investments; and
- Supporting more coherent funding arrangements to support translation.

The SCOR Board is hosted by the UK Collaborative on Development Sciences (UKCDS) and held its first meeting in November 2017.

d. SCOR Board Membership

The SCOR Board is a senior-level (Director, CEO, CSA-level) group made up of the budget holders who are the senior responsible owners and decision-makers for each major HMG ODA-fund for science and research for development (DFID, BEIS, and DHSC (formally DH)).

The SCOR members are responsible for taking decisions at the Board on behalf of their Departments and taking forward Board actions within Departments, ensuring engagement with individual accounting officers and the Director Generals of DFID, DH and BEIS as required. The Board is chaired by a senior, independent Chairperson.

Current SCOR Board Members:

- Professor Baron Peter Piot, Director of the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine and Professor of Global Health (SCOR Board Chair)
- Professor Jeremy Farrar, Director of Wellcome
- Professor Sir John Savill, Chief Executive and Deputy Chair of MRC
- Professor Andrew Thompson, Chief Executive of AHRC, representing the GCRF Fund
- Professor Chris Whitty, Chief Scientific Adviser, Department of Health



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- Professor Charlotte Watts, Chief Scientific Adviser, DFID
- Ms Sharon Ellis, Director of International Science & Innovation, BEIS

Role of Independent SCOR Board Members

Independent members of the SCOR Board play a central role in enabling SCOR to achieve this mission, by providing advice and insight based on their thematic and sectoral expertise.

The SCOR Board is looking to recruit experts from sectors including, but not limited to, agriculture, environment, energy, technology/innovation, and arts and humanities. Applications of experts from the NGO/development sector and the private sector are encouraged.

Candidates should have experience of operating at a senior level within the international development sector and will be expected to bring in-depth knowledge of how the international development sector engages with publicly-funded ODA research.

The successful candidate will need:

- To demonstrate a sound and in-depth understanding of UK international development research policy and evolving dynamics of the ODA-funded research landscape since 2015;
- A wide thematic and sectoral expertise to contribute to discussions that will ensure that the UK remains a global leader in the research for international development sector;
- To promote coherence and strategic linkages between public funders of international development research, academia, non-governmental organisations and private sector entities;
- A proven ability to exercise judgement across a broad spectrum of strategic issues.

The selection process

UKCDS will deal with your application as quickly as possible and will advise you of the likely timetable at each stage. Candidates who are successful in the initial shortlisting process will be invited to interview with a selection panel presided by the SCOR Board Chair.

How we will manage your personal information

Your personal information will be held in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998. You will not receive unsolicited paper or electronic mail as a result of sending UKCDS any personal information. No personal information will be passed on to third parties for commercial purposes.

a. Official Secrets Act



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The provisions of the Official Secrets Acts 1911 to 1989 apply to members of the SCOR Board. Unauthorised disclosure of any information gained in the course of this appointment, or its use by the member or others for personal gain or advancement, could result in the appointment being terminated early, or even criminal prosecution.