

# International Science Partnerships Fund (ISPF) Institutional support grant funding FY 2023-24 and FY 2024-25



---

## International Science Partnerships Fund (ISPF) Institutional support grant funding for financial years (FY) 2023-24 and 2024-25

---

Issue Date:	27 November 2023
Reference:	SFC/AN/21/2023
Summary:	Allocation of additional funds from DSIT for International Science Partnerships Fund (ISPF) Institutional Support Grant in FY 2023-24 and FY 2024-25.
FAO:	Principals Scotland's universities, and the general public.
Further Information:	<b>CONTACT:</b> Hazel McGraw <b>JOB TITLE:</b> Senior Policy Officer <b>DIRECTORATE:</b> Research & Innovation <b>TEL:</b> 0131 313 6657 <b>EMAIL:</b> <a href="mailto:hmcgraw@sfc.ac.uk">hmcgraw@sfc.ac.uk</a>

---

## Contents

---

<b>International Science Partnerships Fund (ISPF) Institutional Support Grant funding for financial years 2023-2024 and 2024-2025.....</b>	<b>4</b>
Summary.....	4
ISPF Institutional Support Grant funding for Official Development Assistance (ODA) .....	4
Conditions of funding .....	4
Monitoring.....	5
Acceptance of funding.....	5
Payment profile .....	6
<b>Further information.....</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Annex A .....</b>	<b>7</b>

# International Science Partnerships Fund (ISPF) Institutional Support Grant funding for financial years 2023-2024 and 2024-2025

## Summary

1. I am writing to announce the allocation of International Science Partnerships Fund (ISPF) Institutional Support Grant funding for financial years (FY) 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 from the UK Department for Science, Innovation and Technology (DSIT).

## ISPF Institutional Support Grant funding for Official Development Assistance (ODA)

2. DSIT has made available to SFC ISPF Institutional Support Grant funding of £2.5 million for FY 2023-24 and £2 million for FY 2024-2025, for Official Development Assistance (ODA) activities.
3. Funding has been allocated to Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) in line with historic ODA funding received, including Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF), and Newton Fund amounts, which means that only those HEIs with previous allocations will receive an allocation from these funds. GCRF hub funding has been included in these calculations and if you have previously received GCRF hub funding, you may wish to consider involving previous partners in the supported activity.
4. Allocations are shown in Annex A.
5. This funding provides flexible institutional grants that can be used strategically to support ODA eligible activity only. This may include underpinning ISPF activity funded through other delivery partners, or by directly supporting research that addresses the problems faced by developing countries that are not funded through the ISPF grants of other delivery partners.

## Conditions of funding

6. The grant must only be used to fund activities that are official development assistance (ODA) compliant as defined by the OECD<sup>1</sup>. To be ODA compliant, all funded activity must have the promotion of the economic development and welfare of developing countries on the OECD's Development Assistance Committee (DAC) list<sup>2</sup> as its main objective; and

---

<sup>1</sup> [Official development assistance – definition and coverage - OECD](#)

<sup>2</sup> [DAC List of ODA Recipients - OECD](#)

be concessional in character.

7. The ISPF Institutional Support Grant shall not be used to deliver activities within, in partnership with or that otherwise benefit China<sup>3</sup>.
8. ISPF Institutional Support Grant (ODA) funding received by institutions in FY 2023-24 must be spent by the end of FY 2023-24 i.e. by end March 2024. ISPF Institutional Support Grant (ODA) funding spend for this financial year can be backdated to when SFC received confirmation of this funding from DSIT (2 November 2023). Funding for FY 2024-25 must be spent within FY 2024-25.

## Monitoring

9. As part of necessary monitoring requirements on this funding, institutions in receipt of this grant are required to include this funding in their routine annual accounting reporting and audit.
10. Institutions in receipt of this funding may also be subject to monitoring spot checks by SFC on behalf of DSIT, and should be prepared to provide programme level examples of how they have spent this funding in line with ODA compliance requirements in quarters 2,3 and 4 of FY 2024-2025.

## Acceptance of funding

11. By accepting these grants institutions agree to spend the full allocation within each respective financial year and that this funding will be spent on ODA eligible activity only<sup>2</sup>.
12. Universities unable to spend this additional funding in line with the intended purpose and by the end of the respective financial year will be able to 'opt out'.
13. Institutions are required to accept or decline their allocation of funding and responses should be provided to SFC from the Principal or an authorised senior officer. Responses should be sent by email to Graeme Scotland, Senior Budgeting & Reporting Officer, email: [grantacceptance@sfc.ac.uk](mailto:grantacceptance@sfc.ac.uk) no later than **5 December 2023**.
14. Funding allocations shown in Annex A are therefore provisional and may be increased to ensure the total budget is allocated.
15. Should institutions that opt in to receive this funding subsequently fail to spend it fully within the required period on ODA eligible activity, these funds may be recovered by SFC.

---

<sup>3</sup> [Written statements - Written questions, answers and statements - UK Parliament](#)

## Payment profile

16. The finalised payments for FY 2023-24 will be paid to institutions in a single instalment in January 2024.
17. Finalised payments for FY 2024-25 will be paid to institutions in three equal instalments in April, August and December 2024.

## Further information

18. If you have any queries or require any further information please contact Hazel McGraw, Senior Policy Officer, email: [hmcgraw@sfc.ac.uk](mailto:hmcgraw@sfc.ac.uk).



**Karen Watt**

Chief Executive Officer

## Annex A: Allocations from the International Science Partnerships Fund for FYs 2023-24 and 2024-25

Institution	Previous ODA awards	International Science Partnerships Fund for FY 2023-24	International Science Partnerships Fund for FY 2024-25
	£ (1)	£ (2)	£ (3)
Aberdeen, University of	16,254,106	210,234	170,819
Abertay University	913,287	11,813	9,598
Dundee, University of	6,085,563	78,712	63,955
Edinburgh Napier University	1,380,936	17,861	14,513
Edinburgh, University of	76,152,716	984,974	800,313
Glasgow Caledonian University	165,856	2,145	1,743
Glasgow School of Art	-	-	-
Glasgow, University of	42,178,897	545,550	443,271
Heriot-Watt University	4,752,373	61,468	49,944
Highlands and Islands, University of the	-	-	-
Queen Margaret University, Edinburgh	-	-	-
Robert Gordon University	2,902,548	37,542	30,504
Royal Conservatoire of Scotland	-	-	-
SRUC	1,330,891	17,214	13,987
St Andrews, University of	9,229,985	119,383	97,001
Stirling, University of	10,965,560	141,831	115,240
Strathclyde, University of	21,591,543	279,269	226,912
West of Scotland, University of the	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>193,904,260</b>	<b>2,507,996</b>	<b>2,037,800</b>