



Commonwealth Scholarship  
Commission in the UK

# Towards a common future

ANNUAL REPORT

For the year ending 30 September 2018



COMMONWEALTH  
SCHOLARSHIPS





Commonwealth Scholarship  
Commission in the UK

# **59TH ANNUAL REPORT TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

FOR THE YEAR ENDING 30 SEPTEMBER 2018

**Presented to Parliament pursuant to Paragraph 5 (2) of Schedule 2 of the International  
Development Act 2002**

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# Foreword



We have the honour to submit pursuant to Schedule 2, Section 13, Clause (5) 2 of the International Development Act 2002, the following report of the Commonwealth Scholarship Commission in the United Kingdom for the year ending 30 September 2018.

## Professor Anne Anderson

UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW  
Deputy Chair and Research lead at CSC

*'As a commissioner I am always humbled by the way many of our hugely talented CSC scholars have overcome very challenging personal circumstances related to economic background or gender or disability to achieve their ambitions. They are often already powerful role models within their communities.*

*Our funding to support their further training provides them with enhanced skills to make a real difference to development on their return home. It is truly inspirational.'*





*“The UK’s development aid priorities are to transform lives for the better and to raise horizons, by fighting poverty, ending conflict, and promoting the values which sustain Britain’s democracy. Commonwealth Scholars are, across the world, leaders in this work. In these pages you will read just a few of the hundreds of reports we received this year of bright and highly motivated individuals who, after their Commonwealth Scholarship or Fellowship, have returned home to transform their communities, societies and nations – helping to build a safer, healthier, more prosperous world for us all.”*

I wrote that for the opening of last year’s annual report to Parliament. It remains a true declaration this year, just as it has been a truth throughout the 60 years of the Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship programmes which the CSC delivers on behalf of the UK Government.

In 2019 we mark that 60th anniversary. The Scholars and Fellows commencing their studies and learning will be the 60th cohort, adding to the 27,800 who have taken up Commonwealth Scholarships since the first group of 175 Scholars arrived in 1960. During those 6 decades the scheme has constantly developed, adapting to the very different world of a 53-nation Commonwealth of 2019.

At the start of 2018 the Commonwealth Education Ministers at their triennial conference acknowledged the success and importance of the Scholarship and Fellowship scheme and heard directly from several of our Scholars. The Education Ministers agreed proposals for reinvigorating the scheme for the next 60 years and reported this to the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) held in London and Windsor during April. Scholars and Fellows were also participants at CHOGM itself, at which Lord Bates, Minister of State for DFID, announced the UK Government’s continuing commitment to the CSC’s programmes with a 3-year funding package, supporting a refocused strategy for the CSC which we developed in cooperation with DFID during 2017 and formally submitted at the end of that year. Our programmes will be more explicitly developmental, prioritised to disadvantaged people and nations in the Commonwealth. In particular, we signed the Charter for Change at the 2018 Global Disability Summit and committed to supporting outreach activities and encouraging scholarships for people with disabilities and in subject areas related to the rights of people with disabilities.

During 2018 The Gambia re-applied to join and was welcomed back to the community of Commonwealth nations. To mark that and the 5 years during which Gambian citizens have been unable to gain a Scholarship or Fellowship, we set aside funds for a special selection of Gambian Scholars for the 60th anniversary cohort. We are delighted to welcome them during this special year.

The CSC’s successful programmes rely on a very wide range of stakeholders. We are supported by a panel of over 200 academic advisers in UK universities who give their time and experience freely to strengthen our selection process. UK universities contribute with their support, encouragement and highly-regarded academic provision for our Scholars, as well as a collective in-kind financial contribution of nearly £5m annually. We are extremely grateful. The DFID is our major funder, now contributing £27m annually; and we are also supported by BEIS. This year we are especially grateful for BEIS’ funding of the Commonwealth Rutherford Fellowships – a programme which has brought 50 post-doctorate researchers from around

all the Commonwealth to join UK universities’ world-leading research teams, bringing their exceptional knowledge to contribute to the UK’s globally-focussed research programmes. The selection of these exceptional Fellows, and also the special cohort of Gambian Scholars in 2018, was only possible because of the exceptional effort and additional work undertaken by the CSC Secretariat. They always do the best for the Award recipients and alumni. On behalf of all the Commissioners I thank them for their consistently impressive commitment to making Scholarships and Fellowships a success in every respect.

Our partnerships are international. Countries in the Commonwealth designate a national agency which organises wide advertising of Commonwealth Scholarships throughout their nation and then make an initial selection of potential candidates recommended to the CSC. These are not quotas; potential Scholars and Fellows are in competition across the Commonwealth, to maintain the highest standards. The national agencies are valued partners and our new strategy will strengthen this relationship. We are very grateful for the rigorous and significant work of our nominating partners across the Commonwealth.

Our refocused strategy is supported by our internationally-recognised evaluation programme. We seek answers in increasingly accurate and sophisticated ways to the fundamental question: do Scholarships and Fellowships result in developmental benefits? Our evidence and answers are described in this report. Some of that evidence is of course qualitative and in this report you can read about the returned Scholars and Fellows who have made, and are making, a beneficial impact in their communities and countries. I, and my fellow Commissioners, are inspired by them, and I am confident you will be too.

The Commonwealth Scholarship Commissioners who steward and develop this extraordinary scheme with pride and enthusiasm will, in addition to their usual extensive commitment to making the best and fairest selections and developing policy based on the evidence of our evaluations, be marking 60 years of Commonwealth Scholarships and Fellowships during 2019. I hope you will join us in celebrating the achievements of those 27,800 Scholars and Fellows and in looking forward to welcoming new Scholars for another 60 years, and more.



**Richard Middleton**  
Chair  
Commonwealth Scholarship Commission in the UK

# Sustainable Development Goals

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), otherwise known as the Global Goals, are a universal call to action to end poverty, protect the planet, and ensure that all people enjoy peace and prosperity. Launched by the UN in 2015, the 17 goals are underpinned by 169 targets and 230 indicators, to be achieved by 2030.

Each story within this report is tagged with the SDG(s) that the work or research relates to – providing a clear indication of how Commonwealth Scholars and Fellows are making a meaningful contribution to sustainable development.





# Our Scholars



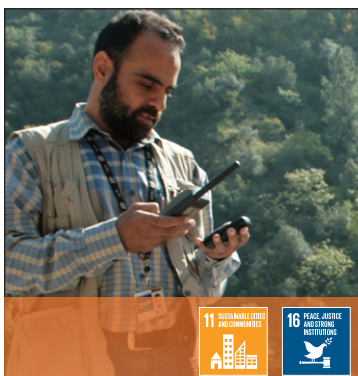
## PAGE 8

Archana Dayal (2015 Commonwealth Scholar from India, PhD Environmental Studies) pictured here extracting an ice core from a polar region, which will be used to study long-term climate change.



## PAGE 12

Aakanksha Pathania (2014 Commonwealth Shared Scholar from India, MSc Water and Environmental Management, University of Bristol) teaching community members in the villages of Kanpur and Fatehpur district about water budgeting.



## PAGE 16

Muhammad Urfi (2013 Commonwealth Professional Fellow from Pakistan, Conciliation Resources) has been a war reporter, studying the Line of Control between India and Pakistan. Recently he has volunteered to help neutralise tensions by sharing the stories of the people living either side of the divide through filmmaking.

## PAGE 10

Leonida Nyarwaba Mosomi (2015 Commonwealth Scholar from Kenya, MSc Human Nutrition, University of Surrey) conducting a nutrition assessment for baby Abigail (9 months old) by taking her length and weight during a Well Baby's clinic at PSTC health centre - Ruiru, Kenya.



## PAGE 14

Commonwealth Scholars show their commitment to sustainable development at the CSC Welcome Event in November 2017.



## PAGE 18

Kohinoor Yeasmin (2009 Commonwealth Professional Fellow from Bangladesh, Rights of Women) supports the training and empowerment of disadvantaged women in Bangladesh through the NGO 'Tarango' in her role as Chief Executive Officer.



# Science and technology for development



**Commonwealth Scholarships are offered in any area of science or technology in order to develop the knowledge and/or skills of scholars studying the specific sustainable development priorities within a low- or middle-income country.**

“Technological and scientific progress can be a vital cornerstone of economic development. A Commonwealth Scholarship offers our students the chance to work with some of the best research groups in the world, tackling problems that are relevant to their home country.”

**Dr Nick Brown**

Commonwealth Scholarship Commissioner

**88%**

of DFID-funded awards were made to citizens of the Commonwealth's 24 poorest states







**Amanpreet Kaur**

2017 Commonwealth Split-site Scholar

**INDIA**

PhD Plant Biotechnology

THAPAR UNIVERSITY AND UNIVERSITY OF DUNDEE



**Emmanuel Owobu**

2016 Commonwealth Distance Learning Scholar

**NIGERIA**

MSc Global eHealth

UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH



**Dr Thomas Ochukwu Mbuya**

2016 Commonwealth Rutherford Fellow

**KENYA**

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHAMPTON

## BIOTECHNICAL INTERVENTION

In India, potato is the fourth most important food, and the most important non-cereal food crop across the world. Globally, more than 376 million tonnes of potatoes are produced per year. Out of this huge production, India contributes approximately 12%. Due to the role of potato within the Indian economy, the government has established four Agri Export Zones to strengthen the potato trade and export industry.

As potato is propagated using seed tubers it is very prone to a number of diseases. Among them, late blight caused by an oomycete named 'Phytophthora infestans' is of high importance, as every year 30-50% of the crop is lost to the disease. Presently, late blight is controlled through the use of chemical sprays, but this is not a very effective method and also adds environmental and economic pressure.

To control the disease effectively, my research is focused on investigating biotechnological tools to develop blight-resistant potato cultivars. The identification of efficient crop improvement systems to reduce disease pressure will improve potato yields and will also safeguard the environment.

## IMPROVING MOBILE HEALTH APPS

Access to healthcare and universal health coverage is a basic right for every single person on Earth, irrespective of geography or socioeconomic status. This is not the case, however, in many low and middle income countries. Nigeria has the second highest number of maternal and child deaths worldwide, with around 2,300 children under the age of five and 145 women of childbearing age dying every day.

My solution is the use of one of Nigeria's leading m-health (mobile health) services, the OMOMI mobile app, which combines innovation with the current infinite potential of mobile technology in Africa to provide access to quality and affordable healthcare services in hard-to-reach communities. I will use mobile technology to improve the lives of people and society in Nigeria at large.

OMOMI does this through behaviour modification techniques, continuous learning, and the provision of simple health skills. The OMOMI solution empowers mothers with basic knowledge and skills that are easily transferable to their family, other mothers, and the wider society, while providing them with access to healthcare. I believe it is easier to reach 40 million women in Nigeria with lifesaving health information and access to healthcare through their mobile devices, rather than visiting them one at a time in their homes or local hospitals.

## CONVERTING PLASTIC WASTE

My research investigates how to convert plastic waste, combined with construction waste from quarries, into useful construction materials, including roofing tiles and paving slabs. Non-biodegradable plastic waste is a major municipal waste management issue in developing countries such as Kenya, where these systems are relatively inefficient. This growing waste management issue is in turn causing severe environmental hazards, and is becoming a popular area for research. One of the key objectives of my research focuses on how to develop these non-biodegradable materials at a low cost to support the construction of affordable housing.

It is projected that 60% of humanity will be residing in urban areas by 2030 and 95% of this urban expansion will occur in developing countries, leading to major housing and infrastructure challenges. Over 880 million people live in slums, mostly in Sub-Saharan Africa, and 50% of Kenya's population is projected to reside in urban areas by 2030 (as described in the development programme 'Kenya Vision 2030'). Resilient infrastructure and adequate, affordable and decent housing in a sustainable environment is therefore needed. This can be achieved in part by enabling the development and sustainable production of appropriate low-cost construction materials and products.

**Our mix of application routes enables governments in low and middle income countries to nominate candidates in line with their national development priorities. In this report year, these included:**

Health and Strengthening Health Systems  
Education  
Agriculture  
Economic Growth

Infrastructure Development  
Science, Technology & Engineering  
Environmental Sustainability and Climate Change  
Governance, Peace & Security

Human Capital Development  
Public Policy and Administration  
Inclusivity and Equitable Access

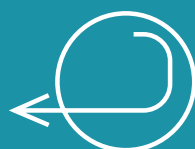
# Strengthening health systems and capacity



In order to improve health provision or outcomes for disadvantaged groups in low and middle income countries, Commonwealth Scholarships support the development of knowledge and/or skills across a range of possible approaches. These approaches include training staff to fill critical shortage areas; establishing better systems, processes or management; health promotion and improving understanding of non-take up; and developing new treatments.

95%

of alumni completing their awards returned to a developing country



94%

of respondents to the 2017 survey rated support from the CSC as 'excellent' or 'good' (the top two categories)





**Chigozie Utazi**

2010 Commonwealth Scholar

**NIGERIA**

PhD Statistics

UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER AND  
LANCASTER UNIVERSITY

## WINNER OF THE 2018 TAYLOR & FRANCIS COMMONWEALTH SCHOLAR BEST JOURNAL ARTICLE PRIZE

### IMPROVING ACCESS TO VACCINATION

Improved access to childhood vaccination in low and middle-income countries is one of the most significant successes recorded in the global health arena in recent decades. Despite this progress, indicators of the performance of vaccination programmes such as coverage levels and the number of individuals vaccinated continue to be measured through national or regional statistics, which mask epidemiologically-relevant heterogeneities or 'coldspots' of low coverage, that may lead to sustained disease circulation, even when overall coverage levels are high.

My research assesses the performance of childhood vaccination programmes in low and middle-income countries. I have applied novel geostatistical techniques to map vaccination coverage at a high spatial resolution in children under five years. Using measles vaccination as an example, the output maps for the pilot countries Nigeria, Mozambique and Cambodia revealed significant disparities in vaccination coverage which were not captured by large area summaries. In Nigeria in particular, my research estimated that in 2013 approximately 17 million children aged under 5 were unvaccinated, with

only 4% of districts in the southern part of the country attaining 80% coverage, which is one component of the WHO Global Vaccine Action Plan (GVAP).

My work forms part of the evidence base to guide the design and implementation of vaccination programmes in high-burden countries. Specifically, the output maps which are available at multiple spatial scales have been utilised by programme managers in the funding organisations to plan intervention programmes.

Following the publication of my research, my fellow researchers and I are continuing to scale up our work, applying the techniques presented in mapping the coverage of childhood vaccinations in other low and middle income countries in Africa and Asia. Our team are also developing an open web visualisation tool that will host country-specific output maps to increase the accessibility of these datasets. It is hoped that the sharing of this data will support the work of other researchers and inform stakeholders and government policymakers.



**Gloria Akosua Ansa**

2006 Commonwealth Scholar

**GHANA**

PhD Public Health

UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

### DEVELOPING QUALITY PUBLIC HEALTH INTERVENTION

As Head of Public Health at the University of Ghana Health Services, I have been responsible for the successful expansion of quality public health intervention and services, including HIV clinical care, TB care, Hepatitis B screening and management, and vaccination services. The HIV clinic currently serves over 500 patients and the newly-established Hepatitis Clinic now enrolls over 250 patients.

I have also been instrumental in integrating preventative healthcare as part of routine care provided to patients, which has included the introduction of an outpatient service providing health education, weight checks and dietary advice, and free breast cancer screening.

In collaboration with other clinical departments, I have seen the introduction of a Continuous Professional Development initiative, through which training needs across departments have been identified and addressed by staff across the University health services to further develop health care provision.

“The CSC funds many applications from students in resource-limited settings who wish to undertake courses in Public Health and other clinical disciplines, returning home to make a considerable impact on the health of their communities through the provision of improved education and the research/development of innovative health interventions.”

**Professor Brian Faragher**

Commonwealth Scholarship Commissioner

49%

of candidates selected  
for a DFID-funded  
scholarship were women





# Promoting global prosperity

Commonwealth Scholarships help to support economic prosperity in low and middle income countries. The knowledge and/or skills gained by commonwealth scholarships could lead to, for example, enhanced trade capacity; improved economic understanding or decision-making by business or government; new products and services; or long-term capacity building, for example through the development of entrepreneurial skills.



“The prosperity of every nation is based on the skills of its people, and that relies on their education and training. The shared prosperity between nations - what we call trade - relies on the personal interaction and cultural experience of business, civil society and academic leaders, as well as politicians and civil servants. Commonwealth Scholarships - tangibly, significantly, and consistently - drive both of these engines of prosperity.”

**Richard Burge**

Commonwealth Scholarship Commissioner

**£4.65m**

was generated in matching contributions to the cost of CSC awards from UK universities or other donors



**5.2%**

The CSC continued to focus on the proportion of administration costs to maximise the proportion of scholarships and fellowships resources and directly related activities. This year administration costs amounted to 5.2% of the total budget.



**Olufunke Baruwa**

2011 Commonwealth Distance Learning Scholar

**NIGERIA**

PGCert Public Policy and Management  
UNIVERSITY OF YORK

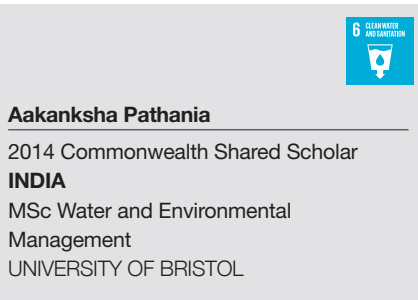


## CLOSING THE GENDER GAP

There is established and growing evidence that women's leadership improves political decision-making processes. Women demonstrate political leadership by working across party lines through parliamentary women's meetings – even in the most politically combative environments – and by championing issues of gender equality, such as the elimination of gender-based violence, parental leave and childcare, pensions, gender equality laws, and electoral reform.

The Nigerian Women Trust Fund (NWTF) is a technical and financial resource for women in governance, established in 2011 by an unusual coalition of civil society, government, and the private sector, to close the gender gap in governance in Nigeria. I first served on the Board of Directors as one of the founding members, then was Chief Executive Officer from 2015-2018, and now serve as Co-Chair of the Board of Directors.

In 2017, we launched the Young Women in Politics Forum (with support from the US National Endowment for Democracy and UK Aid's Voices for Change project) to organise young women in different political parties into a movement that can push for change and negotiate spaces for young women between the ages of 18 and 30 years in the democratic space in Nigeria. The forum is working towards closing the intergenerational gap among women in politics by providing a platform for cross-learning, exchange of ideas, and mobilisation of supporters across political parties. The Forum has now grown to over 3,000 young women across party lines all over the country with several members running for elective office in the coming 2019 general elections in Nigeria. Some others hold various positions in government and lead active citizen led groups pushing for reforms in the country.



**Aakanksha Pathania**

2014 Commonwealth Shared Scholar

**INDIA**

MSc Water and Environmental Management  
UNIVERSITY OF BRISTOL



## TACKLING WATER INSECURITY

Understanding how much water is needed to meet all the requirements in a rural household is a question that I was asked frequently whilst working as a Policy Consultant in WaterAid India. I had access to all the National Rural Drinking Water Programme Papers, however I had to hold numerous discussions with rural community members to find an exact answer to this question, using water budgeting activities.

Whilst the existing rural water supply programme takes into consideration water requirements for drinking, cooking, bathing, washing utensils and ablution, I realised that nobody had thought of the problem of storing enough water for firefighting or tackling water scarcity during summers. Rural villages are susceptible to frequent fires since most of the houses are made of thatched roofs, which can catch fire easily and this can threaten to destroy an entire village if not controlled quickly. When asked how they tackle a

fire in the absence of a fire station, most villagers replied that they use sand and run between hand pumps to fetch water.

This led to the development of the "Ghar Ghar Aakash Ganga Abhiyaan" or "Sky Ganges in Each Household Campaign". It is a campaign about rooftop rainwater harvesting, and it encourages households to collect a minimum of 500 litres of rainwater over a year, which can be used to meet household water requirements and store surplus water to recharge groundwater. This model of rooftop rainwater harvesting for water conservation is being well accepted by the communities in our project intervention villages in Kanpur and Fatehpur (districts of the Indian state of Uttar Pradesh). Not only are they more prepared for handling disasters, they are also trying to recharge the groundwater, thereby tackling the problem of water insecurity in the intervention villages.



**Nelson Amo**

2010 Commonwealth Shared Scholar

**GHANA**

MSc Development Studies  
LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND POLITICAL SCIENCE



## ACCELERATING THE GROWTH OF SMALL, HIGH-IMPACT BUSINESSES IN GHANA

I am the founder and CEO of Innohub, a business accelerator and impact investment platform which supports small and growing businesses with high-impact social and profit potential to become sustainable, scalable, and investment-ready. Innohub seeks to grow businesses and contribute to enterprising solutions to poverty and underdevelopment. The company is currently partnering with a French fund to set up a 9 million Euros impact fund to provide "missing middle" investments for SMEs in Ghana.

2 editions of Common Knowledge magazine were published in February and August 2018. 55 alumni events were held in 26 different countries. Membership of the Commonwealth Scholarships LinkedIn group was 4,057.

914

alumni were added to the database, including 114 traced alumni



12,007

Contact details were maintained for alumni





# Strengthening global peace, security and governance



Commonwealth Scholarships develop knowledge and/or skills which will strengthen peace and security at national, regional, and international levels. Multiple approaches are studied and implemented by our Scholars, such as strengthening open and transparent governance; improving mutual understanding within and between societies; and building systems that reduce the potential for conflict or encourage its resolution.

“Our Scholars become expert in researching issues relevant to peace, security and governance, ranging from mitigating the effects of community-level disruption and conflict, to researching the barriers preventing global democracy.

Through lobbying, encouraging greater public political participation, setting up peace-building organisations and advocating various sustainable development initiatives, the work and research our Scholars achieve while in the UK and in their home countries, contributes greatly to the building of a peaceful future in the Commonwealth and the world at large.”

**Sarah Laessig**

Commonwealth Scholarship Commissioner

**95%**

of award holders would recommend applying for a Commonwealth Scholarship or Fellowship



**99%**

of award holders would recommend studying in the UK





**Hassan Bubacar Jallow**

1978 Commonwealth Scholar

**THE GAMBIA**

LLM Law

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON



**Lino Owor Ogora**

2011 Commonwealth Distance Learning Scholar

**UGANDA**

MSc Education for Sustainability  
LONDON SOUTH BANK UNIVERSITY

## SAFEGUARDING DEMOCRACY

I was the Chief Prosecutor of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda [ICTR] from 2003-2015, in charge of carrying out investigations, indicting the accused, and conducting trials. It was a big responsibility. The tribunal closed at the end of 2015. It is not really finished – there is still some work left to do – but we finished the bulk of it.

I was also appointed as the first Prosecutor of the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals, from 2012-2016, with responsibility for the residual work of the Rwanda tribunal and the Yugoslav tribunal as well – overseeing the tracking of those fugitives who had not yet been arrested.

By the time it closed in 2015, the tribunal had been able to prosecute the leading figures in the Rwandan genocide: people who planned and oversaw its execution, people who were in leadership positions – from the prime minister to members of the cabinet, to heads of the military and security services, to heads of administration. In total, 93 people were indicted. We secured the arrest of all but nine and prosecuted them. I think that was a big achievement.

We were also, I believe, able to leave something of a legacy in Rwanda itself. Although we conducted our hearings in Arusha, Tanzania, the tribunal helped to restore the Rwandan legal system through various measures: providing training, capacity building, lawyers, prosecutors, investigators, defence counsel. We assisted with law reform in Rwanda to ensure that the criminal justice system has fair trial standards, as well as international ones.

One of the lessons from our work is that international criminal justice is necessary if you want to prosecute people in leadership positions, as national systems sometimes find it difficult to reach them, because either they are outside the country or, if they are in the country, they are in positions of authority and influence, so they may not be easily prosecuted.

This is an advantage of the international system, but we also recognise that national systems have the primary responsibility to deal with these cases, so we must develop their capacity. We tried to do this in Rwanda, through the capacity-building measures already mentioned. The International Criminal Court is the court of last resort, and that is the way it should be.

As Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the Gambia I want to see the judiciary Gambianised to stop it being too dependent on foreign judges. I want the conditions of service of judicial officers to be improved, and for them to have greater security of tenure, so that they can actually be independent. I also want the judicial system to be more efficient, so that it can deliver justice quickly and fairly. I would like to see a new constitution in the Gambia that provides for greater security and independence of the judiciary, and greater public participation and control of public administration.

I am very optimistic. I think we are not going back to the pre-2017 years – we have gone past those. I don't think we will see a return to that. We can only move forward now towards a freer, fairer society, a more tolerant society, a peacebuilding, loving society with respect for law and justice.

## PROMOTING PEACE-BUILDING

I founded the Foundation for Justice and Development Initiatives (FJDI), a non-governmental organisation which supports peace-building in conflict-affected northern Uganda. FJDI works with children, youth, women and communities to promote justice, development and economic recovery in the region. Today, FJDI is one of the leading organisations in transitional justice and peace-building in the region, and implements community programmes in over 20 districts.

FJDI seeks solutions to the long-term impact of conflict in northern Uganda and has supported victims in advocating for redress of human rights violations and atrocities. It has also established sustainable development initiatives and livelihood programmes, aimed at improving the economic status of those affected by conflict. The foundation continues to work with local people and has set up self-help schemes and community memory projects to support those traumatised by the atrocities committed.

In the coming years, we hope to expand our programmes and reach even more people in need of recovery.

94%

of award holders think  
Commonwealth Scholarships  
and Fellowships are prestigious



94%

of award holders think  
awards are relevant to the  
needs of their home country





# Strengthening resilience and response to crises

Commonwealth Scholarships are awarded in subjects that address a broad range of threats, including natural and physical disasters; long-term threats such as climate change; interruptions to the supply of key resources; and sudden economic or technological disruption.



“I believe that new thinking is needed to disrupt and question current dominant paradigms, to develop new approaches which can strengthen resilience and effectively and appropriately respond to crises. Commonwealth Scholarships develop knowledge and skills to help low- and middle-income countries innovate and adapt to changing contexts, withstand sudden shocks, and increase capacity to preserve the continuity of operations following such events.”

**Professor Claire Heffernan**

Commonwealth Scholarship Commissioner

91%

of award holders would have been unlikely to study the same programme in the UK



96%

of alumni have used the skills and knowledge that they acquired on award and/or have made changes in the workplace



**Louise Abongu**

2014 Commonwealth Scholar  
**CAMEROON**  
PhD Livelihoods  
(International Rural Development)  
UNIVERSITY OF READING



**Garfield Young**

2008 Commonwealth Scholar  
**JAMAICA**  
PhD Surveying Education  
UNIVERSITY OF NOTTINGHAM

## UNDERSTANDING CLIMATE CHANGE VULNERABILITY

Top-down has traditionally been the dominant approach to assess the impact of climate change on agriculture. This external method of assessment has proven to be unrealistic for smallholder farmers as it demands a one-size fit, and neglects their individual perceptions and decision-making processes. Research on farmers' adaptive behaviour has demonstrated that they adopt a two-step process, consisting of their perception of risk and adaptive decision-making.

My study focuses on the role of smallholder farmers' perceptions of climate change and their resulting action in the Poli and Pitoa communities in the Sudano-Sahelian agro-ecological zone in Cameroon. It presents an analysis of how climate change is placed and understood within peoples' own everyday experience of vulnerability, how this understanding is shaped, and how perceptions of climate change lead to action.

Farmers' narratives revealed that vulnerability to climate change is a social construct where it is related to place and identity. Perceived vulnerabilities, including rain failure, low access to markets, soil infertility, land degradation, and land rights, interact and shape farmers' vulnerability to climate change. My research has revealed that farmers have different interpretations, understanding, and articulation of climatic risk because of their individual cognition of these factors.

Farmers use changes in the crops grown, food security, water scarcity, land use change, and life experience to make attributions about changes in the climate. Some farmers cope with climate change by making changes in cropping practices, while others are able to make adaptive and transformative changes, such as agricultural intensification, livelihood diversification, and commercialisation. Their responses are an outcome of cognitive and decision-making processes, and their motivation to take action is shaped by their perceived ability to carry out a response, personal attitudes towards adaptation options, social influence and subjective norms, and perceived vulnerability.

These complex factors reinforce and interact with each other, and the identified dynamics create a suite of response patterns for smallholder farmers. My research has implications for both development practice and policy, as it demonstrates the importance of farmers' perceptions of climate change in their responses to climatic risk, and underscores the importance of mainstreaming climate information services into development interventions, as this will permit farmers to make informed decisions. My research raises the importance of synergising adaption programmes and policies with the ways people perceive and manage risks and uncertainty in order to combat the effects of climate change in agricultural communities.

## BUILDING RESILIENT INFRASTRUCTURE

I successfully led negotiations with the World Bank to provide funding to support the implementation of the Jamaica Safe Schools Project: School Inspection Programme (JSSP). The project forms part of a larger National Education Sector Development Plan that supports the Government of Jamaica in mainstreaming disaster risk management in the regulation, planning, designing, construction and management of school infrastructure. Jamaica has a high vulnerability to natural hazards, including hurricanes, flooding and earthquakes. By improving infrastructure to mitigate the risks from these hazards we hope to reduce the percentage of GDP that is typically used to recover from damages caused by natural disasters.

The primary objective of the project is to build a critical database, providing key information on the vulnerability and infrastructural resiliency of public schools across the country. Schools are a crucial part of building resilience to natural disasters: as well as being a hub of learning for young people in Jamaica, during times of disaster they are often used as shelters for surrounding communities.

Under the project, 971 public infant, primary and secondary schools across the country are being inspected to assess risk, as well as structural and functional needs. This is an important investment in the country's future as these assessments will enable the government to prioritise investment planning to build infrastructure resilience in these schools. The initiative has also engaged more than 100 students at university level in gaining hands-on training and experience in data collection as part of this project.

They are using the skills gained from their award



Applying skills at work



Transferring skills to others



Advocating change



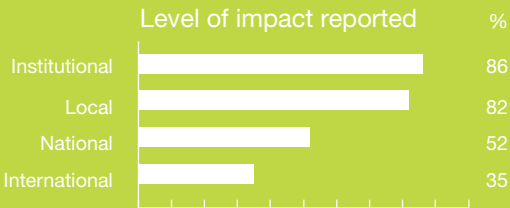


# Access, inclusion and opportunity



Commonwealth Scholarships help to promote opportunity amongst historically disadvantaged groups in low- and middle-income countries. Our Scholars expand educational opportunities; conduct community outreach; enhance access to decision-making; and increase understanding of the barriers faced. A range of disadvantage is addressed through our Scholars' work – including social, economic, gender, ethnic, regional, and political.

Our alumni are having impact on their institutions – and beyond



**Majidah Nantanda**

2015 Professional Fellow  
**UGANDA**  
TACKLE AFRICA



## GROWING THE GAME FOR GIRLS

I founded a girls-only football academy which seeks to empower girls and women through sport. 'Growing the Game for Girls' supports over 80 girls between 8 to 18 years and uses football to deliver sexual health education, while providing a safe space to discuss sensitive issues around sexual health. Through the academy, I have provided improved awareness and access to HIV testing and counselling among young women.

The experience I gained during my Commonwealth Professional Fellowship with 'Tackle Africa' has been instrumental in the development of this programme. During my fellowship I had the opportunity to learn how different social development programmes are administered through football. I am now a Project Officer at 'Tackle Africa', where I have been able to mobilise other people to create awareness on health-related issues.

**Alan Msosa**

2013 Commonwealth Scholar  
**MALAWI**  
PhD Human Rights  
UNIVERSITY OF ESSEX



## SECURING LGBTQI RIGHTS

Constitutional and international obligations require the protection of human rights on the grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity. The Malawian government suspended the arrest and prosecution of consensual adult homosexual acts in 2014. Two years later, in November 2016, the government asked the Malawi Human Rights Commission to hold a public inquiry into LGBTQI (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer, and intersex) rights to inform its decision on whether to decriminalise anti-gay laws.

In 2008, I started collecting newspaper articles about homosexuality in Malawi, after reading an 'alert' in one of the local papers that homosexuals had 'arrived' in the country. From a researcher's perspective, I was struck by the absence of academic writing on homosexuality or LGBTQI rights in Malawi. Even when I did come across Malawians with expertise in this area, they often expressed reservations about discussing their research because of their moral position. I therefore found it imperative to fill this research gap with the hope of supporting evidence-based decision-making on LGBTQI laws in Malawi.

My PhD investigated the societal and institutional factors that have led to challenges in the protection of human rights based on sexual orientation and gender identity in Malawi. As part of my research, I interviewed 44 LGBTQI Malawians to document their daily experiences in their communities and public institutions. I also analysed court judgements to understand the grounds on which people are convicted under anti-gay laws. I found that many suffer multiple human rights violations in their ordinary daily undertakings.

In May 2017, I was invited by the Scotland Malawi Partnership (SMP) - the largest community-based international development network in the UK - to address the Scottish Parliament's Cross-Party on Malawi on LGBTQI rights. I was motivated to address the cross-party group by my continuing advocacy for more international partners to engage with Malawi in its efforts to protect the human rights of LGBTQI people. Following the meeting, we are exploring further collaboration.

“Helping Scholars to focus their talents on how to tackle poverty, how to reach out across social barriers, how to understand and address disadvantage as it manifests for different members of societies, has an impact beyond that individual researcher, allowing more people to improve their opportunities and be involved in decision-making for their community.”

**Dr Jennie Robinson**

Commonwealth Scholarship Commissioner

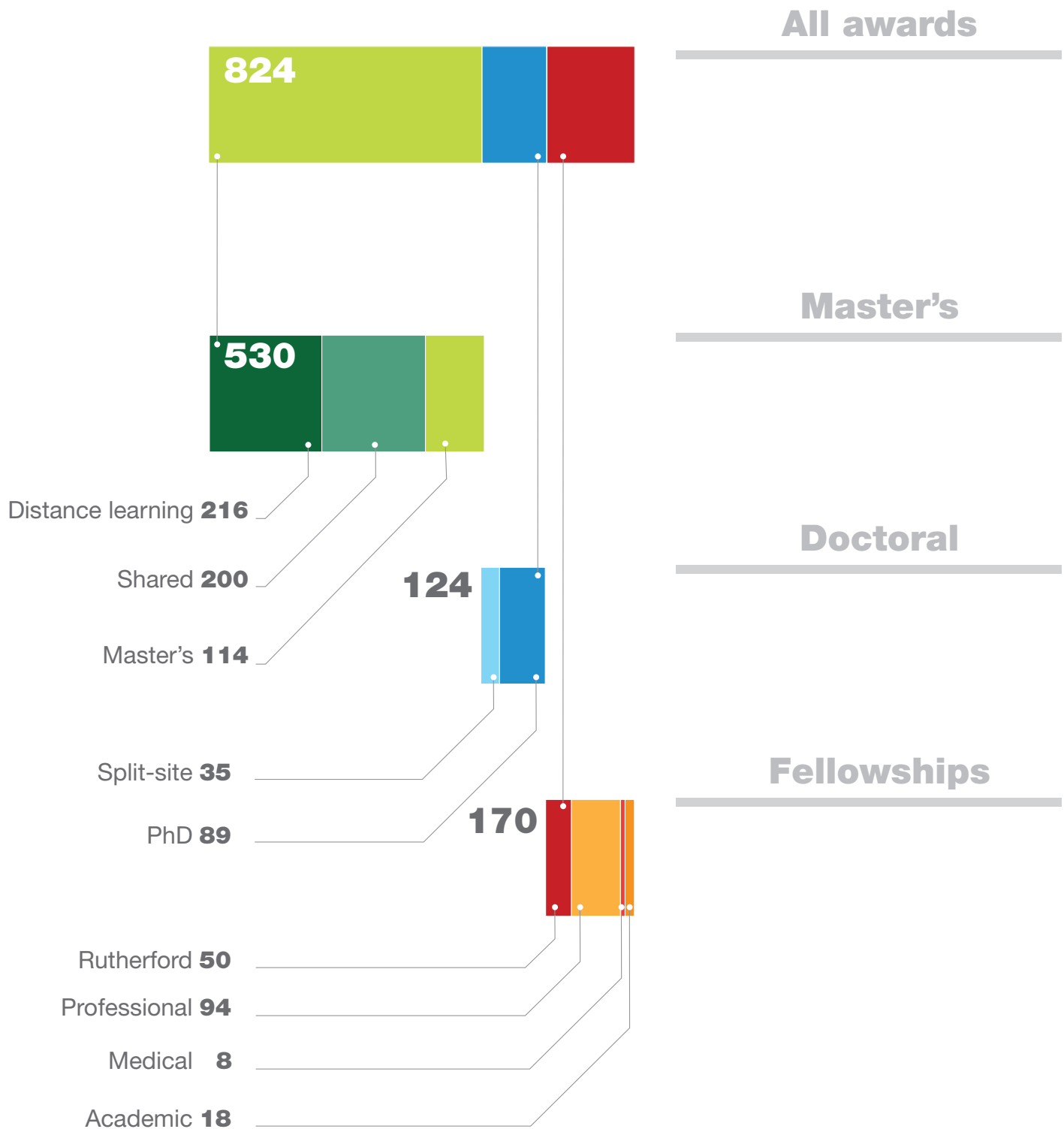
This impact happens in different ways



# Our awards

The CSC awards over 800 scholarships and fellowships for postgraduate study and professional development to Commonwealth citizens each year.

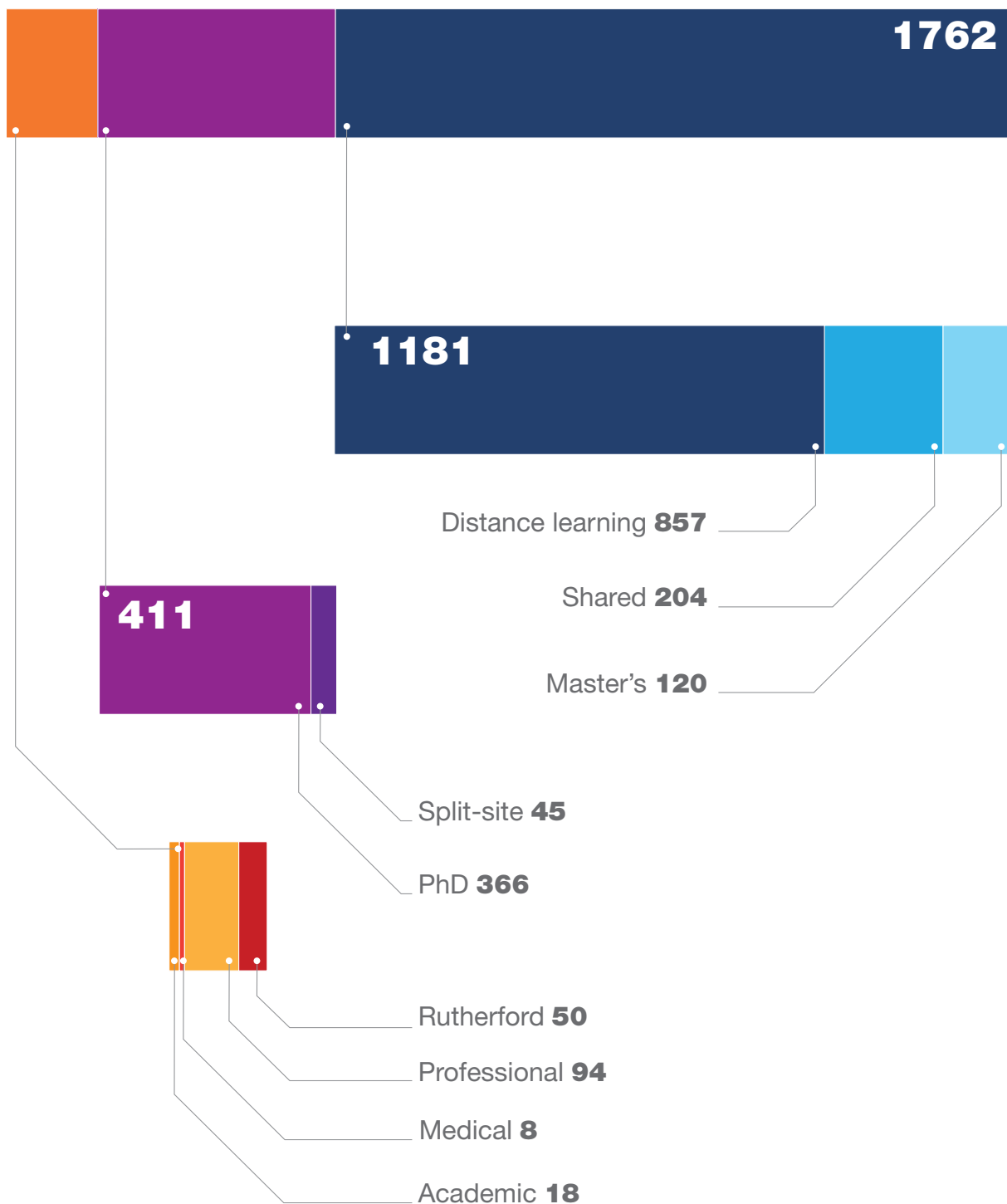
## NEW AWARDS 2017





The CSC funds over 1750 scholarships and fellowships for postgraduate study and professional development to Commonwealth citizens each year, including Scholars undertaking programmes longer than one academic year.

## AWARDS HELD 2017-2018



Includes awards funded by BEIS and DfE

# Our partners

## NOMINATING AGENCIES

Commonwealth Scholarships were founded on the principle of mutual cooperation. The CSC works with governments and trusted partners across the Commonwealth to recruit and shortlist candidates for Master's and PhD study, and also to ensure that national priorities are reflected in our awards.

Ministry of Education, Sports, Youth and Gender

**Antigua and Barbuda**

Ministry of Education

**Bangladesh**

University Grants Commission of Bangladesh

**Bangladesh**

Ministry of Public Service, Energy and Public Utilities

**Belize**

Ministry of Tertiary Education, Research, Science and Technology

**Botswana**

Ministry of Higher Education (MINESUP)

**Cameroon**

Ministry of Education and Human Resource

**Dominica**

eSwatini Government

**Eswatini**

Tertiary Scholarships & Loans Board

**Fiji**

Scholarships Secretariat

**Ghana**

Ministry of Education & Human Resource Development

**Grenada**

Ministry of the Presidency

**Guyana**

Ministry of Human Resource Development

**India**

University Grants Commission

**India**

Ministry of Finance & the Public Service

**Jamaica**

Forum for African Women Educationalists (FAWE)

**Kenya**

Ministry of Education

**Kenya**

Public Service Office

**Kiribati**

National Manpower Development Secretariat

**Lesotho**

Department of Human Resource Management and Development

**Malawi**

Public Service Department

**Malaysia**

Ministry of Education and Human Resources, Tertiary Education and Scientific Research

**Mauritius**

Human Resources Management Unit

**Montserrat**

Ministry of Education and Human Development

**Mozambique**

National Students Financial Assistance Fund

**Namibia**

Minister for Education

**Nauru**

Federal Scholarship Board

**Nigeria**

Higher Education Commission

**Pakistan**

Ministry of Inter Provincial Coordination Government of Pakistan

**Pakistan**

Department of Personnel Management

**Papua New Guinea**

Higher Education Council

**Rwanda**

Education Learning Centre

**Saint Helena**

Department of Education, Innovation and Gender

**Saint Lucia**

Service Commissions Department

**Saint Vincent and The Grenadines**

Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Trade

**Samoa**

National Human Resources Development Council

**Seychelles**

Chief Education Officer

**Sierra Leone**

Ministry of Education and Human Resource

**Solomon Islands**

Universities South Africa

**South Africa**

Ministry of Higher Education

**Sri Lanka**

Ministry of Education, Science and Technology

**Tanzania**

Ministry of Education and Training

**Tonga**

Office of the Prime Minister

**Tuvalu**

Ministry of Education and Sports

**Uganda**

Wellcome Trust

**UK**

Canon Collins Trust

**UK**

Windle Trust International

**UK**

Training & Scholarships Coordination Unit (TSCU)

**Vanuatu**

Ministry of Higher Education Higher Education Loans and Scholarships Board

**Zambia**

## ACADEMIC ADVISERS

**Our selections were guided by a panel of over 200 academic advisers during the report year, including internationally-renowned experts in all subject areas, who receive no remuneration for reviewing applications. The CSC is enormously grateful to them.**

Dr. Bode Akinwande	Professor Jon Clare	Professor David Fraser
Professor Jocelyn Alexander	Dr. Phil J Clark	Professor Simon Frostick
Professor Stuart Allan	Professor Peter Clarke	Professor Simone Fullagar
Dr. Christopher Allen	Professor Ian Colbeck	Professor Laura Galloway
Professor Adriana Allen	Professor David Collison	Professor Sayantan Ghosal
Professor Tim Allen	Professor Declan Conway	Professor John Girkin
Professor Annie S Anderson	Professor Stephen Coombes	Professor Richard Giulianotti
Professor Tim Andrews	Professor Christine Cooper	Professor Jon Gluyas
Professor Timothy Arnett	Dr. Mia Crampin	Dr. Hugh Gong
Professor Madeleine Arnot	Dr. Martin Crapper	Professor Jonathan Goodhand
Professor Augusto Azuara Blanco	Professor Richard Craster	Professor Nandini Gooptu
Professor David Baldwin	Professor Simon Croft	Professor Paul Gready
Dr Amitava Banerjee	Dr. Ruth Cross	Professor Jeffrey Green
Professor Michael Barrett	Professor John Crowe	Dr. Chris Greenwell
Professor Paul Beaumont	Professor Luis E Cuevas	Professor Shaun Gregory
Professor Steve Beeby	Dr. Alan Cuthbertson	Professor Peter Gregory
Professor Sanjoy Bhattacharya	Dr. Parviz Dabir Alai	Professor Sunetra Gupta
Professor John Boardman	Professor Kenneth Dalgarno	Professor Fares Haddad
Dr Barbara Bompani	Professor Gail Davey	Professor Geoff Haddock
Professor Sue Bowden	Professor Simon Davies	Professor Malcolm Halcrow
Professor Michael Bowe	Professor Simin Davoudi	Dr. Sally Hancock
Professor Chris Bowen	Professor Susan Dawson	Professor Russell J Hand
Simon Bramhall	Professor Veronica Della Dora	Professor Jenny Harding
Professor Susan Breau	Professor I.M Dharmadasa	Professor Catherine Harper
Professor Michael Brockhurst	Professor Tim Dixon	Dr. Stephen Harris
Professor Iain Broom	Professor Daniel Donoghue	Dr. Elizabeth Harrison
Professor Nick Brown	Professor Han Dorussen	Professor Graham Harrison
Professor Andrew Brown	Dr. Alex Douglas	Professor Oubay Hassan
Professor David Brown	Professor Kurt Drickamer	Professor Sarah Hawkes
Professor Andrew Bush	Professor Angela Druckman	Professor Daniel Haydon
Professor Tony Bush	Dr. Naureen Durrani	Professor Caroline Heycock
Dr Amanda Callaghan	Professor Nnamdi Nduka Ekere	Professor Grant Hillier
Professor Mike Calnan	Professor Sherif El Khamisy	Professor Michael Holdsworth
Professor Zhixian Cao	Professor Robert Elliott	Professor John Holford
Dr. Tracy Diane Cassidy	Dr. Raziye Farmani	Professor David Hopkins
Professor Mario Cerrato	Professor Helen Fenwick	Professor Sam Howison
Professor Justin Champion	Professor Leslie Firbank	Professor Zhu Hua
Professor Siddharthan Chandran	Professor Andrew Fleming	Professor Tom Hutchinson
Professor Tracey Chapman	Dr. Alan Floyd	Professor Lorenzo Iannucci

Professor John Thomas Sir Irvine	Professor Christine McCourt	Professor Neil Sandham
Professor Paul Jackson	Professor Morag McDonald	Professor Mark Sandler
Professor Nick Jenkins	Professor Cheryl McEwan	Dr. Nick Savage
Professor Animesh Jha	Dr. Alison McFadden	Professor Monika Schmid
Professor Mark A Jobling	Professor Jim McGuirk	Professor Jane Setter
Dr. Gillian Juleff	Professor Chris Miall	Professor Suleiman Sharkh
Professor Satvinder Juss	Professor Giles Mohan	Professor Peter Shaw
Professor Robert Kalin	Dr. Thomas Molony	Professor Soraya Shirazi Beechey
Professor Paul Kaye	Dr. Lindsey Moore	Professor John Sidel
Dr. Nina Kazanina	Professor Fionn Murtagh	Professor James Smith
Professor Kevin Keasey	Dr. Talat Nasim	Professor Tom Solomon
Professor Brendan Kenny	Professor Stephen T Newman	Professor Jane Stuart Smith
Professor Hafiz Khan	Dr. Linda Newnes	Dr. Amanda Sykes
Professor John Kinsella	Professor Sarah O'Brien	Professor Ian Taylor
Dr. Janine Kirby	Professor David Osrin	Professor Susan Taylor
Professor Richard Kneller	Professor Christine Oughton	Professor Neil Taylor
Professor Konstantinos Kontis	Professor Sheila Patrick	Professor Peter Taylor
Professor Susanne Kuechler	Geoffrey Payne	Professor Leon A Terry
Professor Panicos Kyriacou	Dr. Stephen Pearson	Dr. Vijay Kumar Thakur
Professor Ilias Kyriazakis	Professor Andrea Petroczi	Professor Robert R Thomson
Dr. Emma Lane	Dr. Gail Preston	Professor Thomas Thomson
Professor Jane Langdale	Professor Adam Price	Professor Kenneth J Thomson
Professor Susan Lanham New	Dr. Catherine Pritchard	Dr. Karen Throsby
Professor Mike Lean	Professor Christine A Raines	Professor Nick Tyler
Professor Siow Ming Lee	Professor Vivek Ranade	Professor Ann Varley
Professor Fiona Leverick	Dr. Orsola Rath Spivack	Professor Mark Viney
Professor Stephen Liddle	Dr. Catherine Rees	Professor Zia Wadud
Professor Philip Lightfoot	Dr. Andrew Regan	Professor David Walker
Professor Tanniemola Liverpool	Dr. Gwendolen Reilly	Professor Frances Wall
Professor Julie Lovegrove	Professor Jane Rickson	Professor Anne Watson
Professor Nicola Lowe	Professor Michael Roe	Professor Adrian Williams
Professor Douglas C MacMillan	Professor Robin Roslender	Professor Justin Willis
Professor Koushik Maharatna	Dr. Alet Roux	Professor William Wisden
Professor Wolfgang Maier	Professor Sudipta Roy	Professor Adrian Wood
Professor Emmanuels Mamatzakis	Professor Jonathan Rushton	Professor Geoff Wood
Dr. Parthasarathi Mandal	Professor Kath Ryan	Professor Michael Woods
Professor Robin Mansell	Professor Alfredo Saad Filho	Professor Simon Woodward
Professor Lutz Marten		Dr. Jianzhong Wu
Dr. Emma Mawdsley		Professor David Zhang
		Professor Valentina Zharkova

## UK UNIVERSITIES

The CSC plays an important role in attracting the best and brightest talent to UK universities. In return, universities support the CSC's activities through part funding all scholarship awards, providing matching contributions of £4.65 million. In the report year, Commonwealth Scholars studied at 95 UK universities.

Aberystwyth University	Newcastle University	University of Edinburgh
Aston University	Northumbria University	University of Essex
Bangor University	Nottingham Trent University	University of Exeter
Bath Spa University	Oxford Brookes University	University of Glasgow
Birkbeck, University of London	Plymouth University	University of Greenwich
Birmingham City University	Queen Margaret University	University of Hull
Bishop Grosseteste University	Queen Mary, University of London	University of Kent
Bournemouth University	Queen's University Belfast	University of Leeds
Cardiff University	Robert Gordon University	University of Leicester
Coventry University	Royal College of Art	University of Lincoln
Cranfield University	Royal Holloway, University of London	University of Liverpool
Durham University	Royal Veterinary College	University of Manchester
Edinburgh Napier University	Sheffield Hallam University	University of Northampton
Glasgow Caledonian University	SOAS, University of London	University of Nottingham
Goldsmiths, University of London	St Mary's University, Twickenham	University of Oxford
Harper Adams University	Swansea University	University of Portsmouth
Heriot-Watt University	Teesside University	University of Reading
Imperial College London	The Open University	University of Roehampton
Keele University	UCL Institute of Education	University of Salford
King's College London	Ulster University	University of Sheffield
Kingston University	University College London	University of Southampton
Lancaster University	University of Aberdeen	University of St Andrews
Leeds Beckett University	University of Bath	University of Stirling
Liverpool Hope University	University of Birmingham	University of Strathclyde
Liverpool John Moores University	University of Bradford	University of Surrey
Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine	University of Bristol	University of Sussex
London School of Economics and Political Science	University of Buckingham	University of the West of England
London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine	University of Cambridge	University of the West of Scotland
London South Bank University	University of Central Lancashire	University of Warwick
Loughborough University	University of Chester	University of Wolverhampton
Manchester Metropolitan University	University of Dundee	University of York
	University of East Anglia	
	University of East London	

## UK FELLOWSHIP HOST ORGANISATIONS

Through hosting Commonwealth Academic, Medical, and Professional Fellows, UK organisations support early and mid-career professionals to develop key skills, as well as building relationships and collaboration with colleagues across the Commonwealth. In the report year, Commonwealth Fellows were hosted by 66 UK organisations.

Aberdeen City Council	Learn to Re-create	University of East London
Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge	LifeLine Network International	University of Edinburgh
African Prisons Project	Liverpool John Moores University	University of Glasgow
Barts and The London, Queen Mary's School of Medicine and Dentistry	London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine	University of Greenwich
British Geological Survey	Loughborough University	University of Leeds
Cardiff University	Newcastle University	University of Leicester
Central and North West London NHS Foundation Trust	Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust	University of Lincoln
Childreach International	Nottingham Trent University	University of Liverpool
Commonwealth Telecommunications Organisation	Plymouth Hospitals NHS Trust	University of Nottingham
Conciliation Resources	Queen Mary, University of London	University of Oxford
Countess of Chester Hospital, Chester	Queen's University Belfast	University of Roehampton
Cranfield University	Royal London Hospital	University of Salford
Durham University	Royal Manchester Children's Hospital	University of Sheffield
East London NHS Foundation Trust	Royal Veterinary College	University of Southampton
Edinburgh Napier University	Sheffield Health and Social Care NHS Foundation Trust	University of Stirling
Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children	Swansea University	University of Surrey
Guy's and St Thomas' NHS Foundation Trust	The Bees for Development Trust	University of Warwick
Heriot-Watt University	The Law Society	University of York
Imperial College London	University College London	
Institute of Cancer Research	University College London Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust	
King's College Hospital	University of Bath	
King's College London	University of Bristol	
Knowledge for Change	University of Cambridge	
Lancaster University	University of East Anglia	

## ORGANISATIONS ACROSS THE COMMONWEALTH

Through Commonwealth Scholarships and Fellowships, organisations benefit from better-qualified staff with increased knowledge and skills, as well as access to international collaboration and partnerships. In the report year, 103 organisations either nominated candidates for or partnered with a UK university on Commonwealth Scholarships and Fellowships.

Monash University, <b>Australia</b>	University of Delhi, <b>India</b>	National Institute for Biotechnology and Genetic Engineering, <b>Pakistan</b>
Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Agricultural University, <b>Bangladesh</b>	University of Technology, <b>Jamaica</b>	National University of Sciences and Technology, <b>Pakistan</b>
Bangladesh University of Textiles, <b>Bangladesh</b>	University of the West Indies, Mona Campus, <b>Jamaica</b>	Pakistan Institute of Engineering & Applied Sciences
Dhaka University of Engineering and Technology, <b>Bangladesh</b>	African Centre for Technology Studies, <b>Kenya</b>	Quaid-i-Azam University, <b>Pakistan</b>
Jahangirnagar University, <b>Bangladesh</b>	Braeburn Schools, <b>Kenya</b>	University of Engineering and Technology, Lahore, <b>Pakistan</b>
Jatiya Kabi Kazi Nazrul Islam University, <b>Bangladesh</b>	Catholic University of Eastern Africa, <b>Kenya</b>	University of Engineering and Technology, Taxila, <b>Pakistan</b>
University of Chittagong, <b>Bangladesh</b>	Chuka University, <b>Kenya</b>	University of the Punjab, Lahore, <b>Pakistan</b>
University of Dhaka, <b>Bangladesh</b>	Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology, <b>Kenya</b>	Papua New Guinea University of Technology
University of Rajshahi, <b>Bangladesh</b>	University of Nairobi, <b>Kenya</b>	University of Rwanda
Forestry Research Institute of <b>Ghana</b>	University of <b>Malawi</b>	University of Sierra Leone
Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, <b>Ghana</b>	University of Malaya, <b>Malaysia</b>	Rhodes University, <b>South Africa</b>
University for Development Studies, <b>Ghana</b>	Rushmore Business School, <b>Mauritius</b>	University of Cape Town, <b>South Africa</b>
University of Energy and Natural Resources, <b>Ghana</b>	University of <b>Nigeria</b>	University of Johannesburg, <b>South Africa</b>
University of <b>Ghana</b>	Ahmadu Bello University, <b>Nigeria</b>	University of Pretoria, <b>South Africa</b>
University of Health and Allied Sciences, <b>Ghana</b>	American University of <b>Nigeria</b>	University of <b>South Africa</b>
All India Institute of Medical Sciences	Corona Schools Trust Council, <b>Nigeria</b>	University of the Western Cape, <b>South Africa</b>
Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham, <b>India</b>	Covenant University, <b>Nigeria</b>	University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, <b>South Africa</b>
Annamalai University, <b>India</b>	Ekiti State University, <b>Nigeria</b>	University of Colombo, <b>Sri Lanka</b>
Calcutta Metropolitan Institute of Gerontology, <b>India</b>	Federal University of Technology, Akure, <b>Nigeria</b>	University of Kelaniya, <b>Sri Lanka</b>
Indian Institute of Engineering Science and Technology	Ladoke Akintola University of Technology, <b>Nigeria</b>	University of Peradeniya, <b>Sri Lanka</b>
Indian Institute of Science	Michael Okpara University of Agriculture, Umudike, <b>Nigeria</b>	University of <b>Swaziland</b>
Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati	Nnamdi Azikiwe University, <b>Nigeria</b>	Institute of Financial Management, <b>Tanzania</b>
Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay	University of Agriculture, Abeokuta, <b>Nigeria</b>	National Construction Council, <b>Tanzania</b>
Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee	University of Agriculture, Makurdi, <b>Nigeria</b>	Open University of <b>Tanzania</b>
Institute of Chemical Technology, <b>India</b>	University of Benin, <b>Nigeria</b>	Sokoine University of Agriculture, <b>Tanzania</b>
Karunashraya Hospice, <b>India</b>	University of Calabar, <b>Nigeria</b>	The College of Surgeons of East, Central and Southern Africa (COSECSA), <b>Tanzania</b>
Lady Hardinge Medical College, <b>India</b>	University of Ibadan, <b>Nigeria</b>	University of Dar es Salaam, <b>Tanzania</b>
Maulana Azad National Institute of Technology, Bhopal, <b>India</b>	University of Ilorin, <b>Nigeria</b>	Kulika Educational Trust, <b>Uganda</b>
Panjab University, <b>India</b>	University of Lagos, <b>Nigeria</b>	Makerere University, <b>Uganda</b>
Punjab Agricultural University, <b>India</b>	University of <b>Nigeria</b>	Mbarara University of Science and Technology, <b>Uganda</b>
Shiv Nadar University, <b>India</b>	University of Port Harcourt, <b>Nigeria</b>	National Environment Management Agency, <b>Uganda</b>
Tata Institute of Social Sciences, <b>India</b>	Aga Khan Foundation, <b>Pakistan</b>	Uganda Management Institute
Tezpur University, <b>India</b>	Bahauddin Zakariya University, <b>Pakistan</b>	Copperbelt University, <b>Zambia</b>
Thapar University, <b>India</b>	COMSATS Institute of Information Technology, <b>Pakistan</b>	University of <b>Zambia</b>
	Mehran University of Engineering and Technology, <b>Pakistan</b>	



# Governance statement

The Commonwealth Scholarship Commission in the United Kingdom (CSC) was established by Act of Parliament in 1959 in order to manage the UK contribution to the Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship Plan (CSFP), launched by Commonwealth Education Ministers in 1958. Its status was subsequently reaffirmed in the International Development Act of 2002 (the Act).

The CSC is a non-departmental public body, for which the Department for International Development (DFID) is the lead department and main sponsor, focusing exclusively on awards that deliver on poverty reduction. Other financial contributions are received from the Department for Education (DfE), for scholarships for candidates from high income countries, and the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS), for fellowships for postdoctoral researchers. The CSC is independent of Government in its decision-making and operations; the Act legislates that the Secretary of State may not give any direction for the selection or rejection of any particular person for an award or as a candidate for an award. The CSC submits an Annual Report on its work each year to the Secretary of State; this forms the basis of a report submitted by the Secretary of State to Parliament, to which (s)he is ultimately responsible for the work of the CSC.

In addition to regulations provided in the 1959 Act (which have been confirmed in subsequent Development Acts) and subsequent Ministerial Directives, detailed governance arrangements for the CSC have been set out in a framework document. The framework includes an associated financial memorandum and the CSC's three-year corporate and one-year business plans. The DFID Internal Audit Department (IAD) provides the CSC's internal audit function. The CSC's annual income and expenditure are incorporated in the overall accounts of DFID, and the CSC account is held with the Government Banking Service.

The Commission normally comprises 15 members, including the Chair, who are appointed in accordance with the principles of the Code of Practice for Ministerial Appointments to Public Bodies. Commissioners are appointed by the Secretary of State for an initial period of three years, with the possibility of reappointment for one further three-year appointment. The Chair and other relevant officials normally meet with relevant Ministers at least annually to discuss the work of the CSC. The Chair of the Commission is the Accounting Officer for the CSC, with responsibility to the Secretary of State for its conduct and performance. A separate statement from the Accounting Officer follows.

# Statement of Accounting Officer's Responsibilities

for the year ending 30 September 2018

## A) CORPORATE GOVERNANCE REPORT

### I. COMMISSIONERS' REPORT

#### Organisational Structure

Mr Richard Middleton (Chair and Accounting Officer)

Professor Anne Anderson (Deputy Chair)

Page 33 lists the membership of the CSC.

Dr Joanna Newman MBE, ACU Chief Executive and Secretary General acted as the CSC's Executive Secretary during the period of the report.

The CSC's Secretariat is provided by the Association of Commonwealth Universities (ACU), whose offices at Woburn House, 20-24 Tavistock Square, London, WC1H 9HF serve as the CSC's headquarters.

#### Register of Interests

Commonwealth Scholarship Commissioners are required to complete a declaration of any interests twice a year. A copy of the Register of Interests is kept by the Secretariat.

#### Diversity and Inclusion

In appointing Commonwealth Scholarship Commissioners DFID seeks to be open and inclusive and seeks to recruit and develop a diverse and talented Commission that is representative of society today.

#### Personal Data Incidents

There were no personal data incidents in 2017-18.

### II. STATEMENT OF COMMISSION'S AND ACCOUNTING OFFICER'S RESPONSIBILITIES

Under the International Development Act 2002, the Commission must make to the Secretary of State for International Development in each year a report on the discharge of its functions during the period of 12 months to 30th September. The Secretary of State will lay a copy of the report before each House of Parliament. In preparing the statement of income and expenditure included in the report, the Accounting Officer is required to comply with the requirements of the Government Financial Reporting Manual and, in particular, to:

- Observe any Accounts Direction issued by the Secretary of State, including the relevant accounting and disclosure

requirements, and apply suitable accounting policies on a consistent basis

- Make judgments and estimates on a reasonable basis

The CSC has regard to the Framework Document, agreed between the CSC and DFID, which sets out financial and accounting requirements in meeting these obligations. The Permanent Secretary and Accounting Officer of DFID has designated the Chair as the Accounting Officer of the CSC. The responsibilities of an Accounting Officer, including responsibility for the propriety and regularity of the public finances for which the Accounting Officer is answerable, for keeping proper records and for safeguarding the CSC's assets, are set out in Managing Public Money published by HM Treasury. The CSC's Accounting Officer has attended relevant training provided by HM Treasury

The Accounting Officer confirms that the annual report as a whole is fair, balanced and understandable, and that he takes personal responsibility for the annual report and statement of income and expenditure and the judgments required for determining that it is fair, balanced and understandable. The CSC's accounts are inspected and reported upon by professional auditors.

The Accounting Officer has taken all the steps that he ought to have taken to make himself aware of any relevant information and to establish that the staff engaged in this work are aware of that information.

### III. GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

The CSC was established under the 1959 Act to:

- Administer the Grant-in-Aid
- Select the persons to receive the Commonwealth Scholarships
- Place the holders of Commonwealth Scholarships at Universities in the UK; and
- Oversee the welfare of the Commonwealth Scholars throughout their tenure

The Commission consists of a chair and not less than nine nor more than fourteen members appointed by the Secretary of State, of whom not less than four shall be appointed as holders of high academic office. Commissioners are volunteers and receive no remuneration. The Chair receives an annual stipend of £10,500.

The Commission and its Committees consider the following matters annually:

- Government policy as it applies to the CSC and the Scholarships
- CSC's governance, membership and policies
- CSC's audit and risk management
- Commission strategy including CSC's Corporate and Business Plans and CSC's performance against them
- Allocation of budgets to programmes, administration and programme support
- Awards policy and process
- Selection: the mechanisms for selecting scholars, contents of the application, outreach, the selection process, management of selection committees and final outcomes
- Scholars: policies relating to the Scholars and their activities in the UK, rules and regulations, placements and the general well-being of Scholars
- CSC's engagement and alumni strategies
- CSC's programme for the evaluation of impact of awards
- CSC's relationships and joint-funding agreements with UK universities
- Production of an Annual Report
- Other policies that may impact the administration of the Scholarships

### Governance Framework

The full Commission meets three times per year, supported by four committees, namely Audit & Risk Management (ARM), Awards Policy, Evaluation and Monitoring, and Finance Committees. The Chairs of these Committees, with the CSC Chair and Deputy-Chair, comprise the Executive Group, and this meets twice annually in between full meetings of the Commission. Separate committees of Commissioners are convened to handle the selection of scholarship recipients. The CSC may appoint independent members to all committees.

Commissioner attendance at full meetings was as follows in 2017-18:

Richard Middleton (Chair)	100%	3/3
Professor Anne Anderson	100%	3/3
Mr Sandy Balfour	100%	3/3
Dr Nick Brown	100%	3/3
Mr Richard Burge (to 30/06/18)	0%	0/2
Mr Anthony Cary (to 30/06/18)	100%	2/2

Professor David Cope	100%	3/3
Professor Brian Faragher	100%	3/3
Professor David Francis (to 31/12/2017)	0%	0/1
Professor Claire Heffernan	0%	0/3
Ms Sarah Laessig	100%	3/3
Professor Nuala McGrath	66%	2/3
Dr Jennie Robinson	100%	3/3
Dr Mary Stiasny	100%	3/3

Commencing in May 2017 and continuing into the year under report, the Minister for International Development led an internal review of the Commission. Working with the CSC to develop a new strategy, Lord Bates confirmed that DFID would increase its grant, supporting CSC over a three-year period beginning in April 2018.

**The ARM Committee** advises the CSC and Accounting Officer on:

- the arrangements through which CSC accounts for its expenditure, including both internal controls and external inspection, and recommends any changes required to conform with best practice
- its oversight of the CSC's programme of internal Audit by DFID IAD
- the arrangements in place to prevent conflicts of interest for Commissioners and staff
- the CSC's Risk Register and risk management procedures, and ensures that appropriate policies are in place to conform with these
- whether all contractual arrangements which exist between the Commission, its sponsors and its main service suppliers are appropriate from a risk management perspective

**The Awards Policy Committee** advises the CSC on:

- Allocation of budgets between programmes; policy for all Scholarship and Fellowship programmes including on policy for the recruitment of award-holders and liaison with nominating bodies; proposals for ideas for new Programmes

**The Evaluation and Monitoring Committee** advises the CSC on:

- Evaluation of CSC's programmes by identifying their impact on individual award holders, on their home countries and on wider international activities, and on systematic data as the evidence base for Commission discussions of policy and processes

**The Finance Committee** advises the CSC and AO on:

- budgets made available to the Commission from Government Departments and policy set by the Commission to ensure that these are appropriately allocated and properly accounted for
- arrangements through which the Commission presents its accounts; and on approval of end-of-year expenditure reported by its service providers
- proposals from service providers for the costs of providing the menu of agreed services in the following financial year, and recommendations to the Commission as appropriate; and on satisfaction with the internal controls in place for the management of expenditure
- the MoU or other contractual arrangements which exist between the Commission, its sponsors and its main service suppliers
- forecast award expenditure and any action taken in the event of significant forecast budgetary under- or over-spend
- a budget to meet the Commission's operating costs and any action taken in the event of significant forecast budgetary under- or over-spend
- a budget to meet the costs for the Commission's Engagement and Alumni Strategies, and for programmes of Recruitment and Outreach, and Monitoring and Evaluation; and on any action taken in the event of significant forecast budgetary under- or over-spend against these headings
- the formal record of recommendations made to selection committee chairs for the allocation of resources to new awards
- any concerns regarding the above, and in any event to present minutes of meetings to the Commission

### Commission Performance

In the first quarter of 2018 the Chair had individual conversations with each Commissioner, reviewing Commission performance and individual contributions. Commissioners also had the opportunity to relay via the Deputy Chair any feedback on the performance of the Chair.

All Scholars are surveyed each year on the effectiveness of the Scholarship and its administration as part of the anonymous survey and the results of this survey are reviewed by the Evaluation and Monitoring Committee. In 2017/18, 94% of Scholars reported that the support they had received from CSC had been excellent or good.

### Corporate Governance Code

The CSC has considered HM Treasury's Corporate Governance Code as it applies to a small Non-Departmental Public Body, and, where the Code is materially relevant, the CSC and the AO consider that the CSC does conform.

### Risk Assessment

The following key principles outline the CSC's approach to risk management and internal control which it seeks to align with DFID's processes:

The CSC's risk policy is that it:

- has responsibility for overseeing risk management within the organisation as a whole
- has an open and receptive approach to solving risk problems
- has a generally low risk appetite and makes conservative and prudent recognition and disclosure of the financial and non-financial implications of risks

The CSC's Risk Register incorporates this approach to risk management, and the roles and responsibilities of the CSC and its Secretariat and its risk management processes. The CSC and its Secretariat seek guidance where appropriate from the DFID on risk management issues and has recently commissioned an audit of its risk management process from DFID Internal Audit Department. The CSC and its Secretariat conduct risk assessments of relevant higher risk activities, e.g. a risk assessment is undertaken for all CSC organised events.

The CSC's Risk Register is reviewed three times a year by the ARM Committee and reviewed by the full Commission once a year.

CSC's most significant risks and mitigations or controls are:

- Loss of support from funding bodies could impact on CSC's ability to deliver its programmes. To mitigate this risk, CSC undertakes regular meetings with funding bodies at operational, senior and Ministerial level to ensure that its strategy remains closely aligned with that of its funders. CSC's evaluation programme demonstrates the development benefits its awards
- The Commission fails to attract a sufficient number of applicants. To mitigate this, CSC regularly reviews its publicity materials including feedback from Scholars; has developed a new more accessible online application system

and has put in place an engagement strategy to ensure that Commonwealth Scholarships are widely known and respected

- Its fiduciary relationship with nominating bodies. To mitigate risks the CSC has developed closer relations with home country agencies and other nominators including the introduction of MOUs, along with requirements for them to adhere to CSC's Anti-Fraud Policy

CSC did not face any new significant risks in 2017-18.

### Scope of responsibility

As Accounting Officer since 1 April 2016, I have responsibility for maintaining a sound system of internal control that supports the achievement of the CSC's policies, aims and objectives whilst safeguarding the public funds and assets for which I am personally responsible, in accordance with the responsibilities assigned to me in Managing Public Money.

### The purpose of the system of internal control

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than to eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives. The system of internal control is based on an ongoing process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of CSC policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised, and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically. The system of internal control has been in place for the year ended 31 March 2018 and up to the date of approval of the annual report, and accords with Treasury guidance.

The Secretariat regularly reports to the Commission on expenditure to date, forecast outturn and projections for future years. These projections enable the CSC to assess the potential impact of increased tuition and maintenance fees. The CSC has considered, together with the DFID representative, the impact of any changes in entry requirements for Scholars. Relevant administrative staff have obtained accreditation (Level 1) with the Office of the Immigration Services Commissioner (OISC).

The CSC works closely with DFID's United Nations and Commonwealth Department, which is represented at meetings of the Commission and its Finance Committee. The CSC also works closely with the British High Commissioners in relevant Commonwealth countries.

### Review of effectiveness

As Accounting Officer, I have responsibility for reviewing the effectiveness of the CSC, particularly its system of internal control. This review of the effectiveness of the system of internal control is informed by the work of the ACU, which has responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework that is separately audited, and responds to advice from DFID, DFID Internal Audit reports, comments made by the firm engaged in the inspection of CSC's accounts and other reports. I have been advised on the implications of the result of this review of the effectiveness of the system of internal control by the ARM Committee so that the system can remain fit for purpose.

### Data Quality

All information presented to the Commission is derived from existing and management information systems. The CSC is content with the quality of the data presented to it and considers it sufficient to properly inform decision making.

## B) REMUNERATION AND STAFF REPORT

The Commission has continued the arrangement under which its Secretariat and other management functions are provided by the Association of Commonwealth Universities and the British Council. The Commission does not itself have any employees. The effectiveness and value for money of these arrangements are formally evaluated annually by the Finance Committee, which recommends appropriate action to the full Commission.

## C) PARLIAMENTARY ACCOUNTABILITY AND AUDIT REPORT

CSC monitors the regularity of its expenditure through its expenditure approval process and by scrutinising expenditure against budget.

CSC levies no fees or charges. It experienced no losses or special payments. It has no remote contingent liabilities.



**Richard Middleton**  
Chair



# Membership of the Commonwealth Scholarship Commission in the UK

for the year ending 30 September 2018

## **RICHARD MIDDLETON** CHAIR, COMMONWEALTH SCHOLARSHIP COMMISSION IN THE UK

I work as an interim Registrar or Chief Operating Officer at UK universities – to fit with my role as Chair of the CSC. My experience also includes working for the Medical Research Council in The Gambia and supporting universities' research programmes in sub-Saharan Africa. As Chair I am responsible for ensuring the CSC makes good decisions (consistent with UK Government priorities) and for ensuring the Commission develops an effective strategy. Also, I promote the efficient and effective use of staff, Commissioner expertise and other resources, encouraging high standards of propriety. I enjoy learning from our scholars and alumni, and representing their experiences to our stakeholders and partners.

## **PROFESSOR ANNE ANDERSON OBE** DEPUTY CHAIR, COMMONWEALTH SCHOLARSHIP COMMISSION IN THE UK VICE PRINCIPAL AND HEAD OF THE COLLEGE OF SOCIAL SCIENCES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF GLASGOW

As a university leader I have been very active building international partnerships and see the huge value these bring for research and addressing global challenges.

As Deputy Chair and Research lead at CSC, I am passionate about the value the CSC brings in supporting capacity building in research across the Commonwealth and the huge contribution our scholars' research brings to tackling the challenges faced in lower income countries.

## **SANDY BALFOUR**

My experience includes development, higher education and open knowledge. I was the founding chair of the pioneering Fairtrade Company, Divine Chocolate, and more recently I have served as Chief Executive of the Canon Collins Educational and Legal Assistance Trust, and of Wikimedia UK.

## **DR NICK BROWN** PRINCIPAL LINACRE COLLEGE, UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

I lead a large international graduate college at the University of Oxford where I also have responsibility for university buildings and estates. I have a long-standing interest in improving Higher Education opportunities in Africa and I chair the Tertiary Education Scholarship Trust for Africa. I am a plant ecologist and research the impacts of major environmental change on natural communities.

## **PROFESSOR DAVID COPE** FOUNDATION FELLOW, CLARE HALL, UNIVERSITY OF CAMBRIDGE

I particularly front the Commission in areas such as energy, environment, earth sciences and engineering - but have a particular interest in the interlinkages between the various development themes which the Commission is promoting.

## **PROFESSOR BRIAN FARAGHER** EMERITUS PROFESSOR OF MEDICAL STATISTICS AT THE LIVERPOOL SCHOOL OF TROPICAL MEDICINE (LSTM)

I am in my second term as a CSC Commissioner. As Emeritus Professor of Medical Statistics at the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine (LSTM), I specialise in statistical modelling and research methods. I have worked for over 40 years supporting clinical and epidemiological research, most recently in the area of tropical medicine, and continue to advise and support projects in Sub-Saharan Africa and Central Asia.

## **PROFESSOR CLAIRE HEFFERNAN** DIRECTOR OF THE LONDON INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT CENTRE

My work at the LIDC focuses on facilitating interdisciplinary and solutions-based research across seven University of London institutions aimed at addressing critical challenges in international development. Current thematic areas include nutrition, health agriculture, humanitarian emergencies, zoonotic diseases, impact evaluation and education.

## **SARAH LAESSIG** CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSIONER

In addition to my role as a Commonwealth Scholarship Commissioner, I also hold other board positions in the public and private sectors which reflect my experience and interest in government, higher education, international development, financial services and technology.

## **PROFESSOR NUALA MCGRATH** PROFESSOR OF EPIDEMIOLOGY AND SEXUAL HEALTH AT THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHAMPTON

I am a Professor of Epidemiology and Sexual Health at the University of Southampton and work primarily on HIV and STIs in Sub-Saharan Africa. My research has spanned the period before international roll-out of HIV treatment and the current era of the challenges of lifetime treatment and multimorbidity.

## **DR JENNIE ROBINSON** UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

My academic interest is human behaviour, particularly on the benefits and impact of diversity. As a Commissioner, I am a cheerleader for encouraging applications from as wide a variety of people as possible, to give us the best chance of achieving the SDGs.

## **DR MARY STIASNY OBE** PRO-VICE CHANCELLOR (INTERNATIONAL) UNIVERSITY OF LONDON AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE UNIVERSITY OF LONDON INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMMES.

I am Pro Vice Chancellor (International) and CEO of the University of London programmes studies by distance and flexible learning around the globe. Currently I chair the Awards Policy Committee.

## **PROFESSOR DAVID FRANCIS** (to 31 December 2017)

David was Head of the Department of Peace Studies and UNESCO Chair in African Peace and Conflict Studies at the University of Bradford. He has now taken up the role of Chief Minister in the Government of Sierra Leone.

## **ANTHONY CARY CMG** (to 30 June 2018)

Prior to joining the Commission Anthony held diplomatic posts within the Foreign and Commonwealth Office for over thirty five years serving most recently as Ambassador to Sweden and as High Commissioner to Canada until his retirement in 2010.

## **RICHARD BURGE** (to 30 June 2018)

Richard is currently Chief Executive of the Commonwealth Enterprise and Investment Council. He was formerly CEO of Wilton Park, an executive agency of the UK's Foreign and Commonwealth Office and spent nearly 10 years in various roles at the British Council.

## OFFICERS

### **DR JOANNA NEWMAN MBE** EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

### **DR JONATHAN JENKINS** DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS

# Key performance indicators

as agreed in the 2017-2018 business plan

	KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATOR		END OF YEAR REPORT
1.	At least 110 recipients from developing Commonwealth countries to take up Scholarships for doctoral (including split-site) study at UK institutions	KPI met	118 doctoral (including split-site) awards taken up by recipients from developing Commonwealth countries (funded by DFID)
2.	At least 499 recipients from developing Commonwealth countries to take up scholarships for Master's level study registered at a UK institutions	KPI met	530 Master's awards taken up, by recipients from developing Commonwealth countries (funded by DFID)
3.	At least 113 recipients from developing Commonwealth countries to take up awards to commence Academic, Professional or Medical fellowships at UK institutions	KPI met	120 fellowships taken up by recipients from developing Commonwealth countries (funded by DFID)
4.	A selection breakdown of Scholarships candidates that comprises at least 45% of each gender	KPI met	49% of candidates selected for a DFID-funded scholarship were women
5.	At least 90% of respondents to an anonymous survey open to Scholars and Academic and Medical Fellows in the UK rate support from the CSC as 'good' or 'excellent' (the top two categories available)	KPI met	94% of respondents to the 2017 survey rated support from the CSC as 'excellent' or 'good' (the top two categories)
6.	900 alumni members added to the CSC alumni database, with contact details maintained for at least 11,000 alumni in total	KPI met	A total of 914 members have been added Contact details held for 12,007 alumni
7.	A package of alumni activities including at least two hard copy magazines, more than 4,000 members of the Commonwealth Scholarships LinkedIn group and at least 28 alumni events held in different countries	KPI met	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>55 alumni events in 26 different countries</li> <li>2 editions of Common Knowledge magazine were published in February and August 2018</li> <li>Commonwealth Scholarships LinkedIn group membership at 4,057</li> </ul>
8.	At least 90% of alumni across programmes finishing awards in the report year to return to live/work in developing countries, or in development organisations, disaggregated by gender	KPI met	95% of alumni completing awards in 2017-18 returned to developing countries
9.	At least 90% of alumni surveyed to report ability to use skills and knowledge acquired on award and/or make changes in workplace	KPI met	96% of the alumni surveyed in the report year reported ability to use skills and knowledge acquired on award and/or make changes in workplace



	KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATOR		END OF YEAR REPORT
10.	At least £4.2m generated in matching contributions to the cost of CSC awards from UK universities or other donors	KPI met	£4.65m
11.	Demonstrably increased collaboration with other HMG scholarship schemes, including proposals for joint alumni and pre-award activity involving British High Commissions and others	KPI met	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CSC represented alongside Chevening at an event for Commonwealth High Commissioners in July</li> <li>Meeting held with High Commissioner to Fiji to discuss Scholarships and CCEM</li> <li>12 Bangladeshi alumni met with Lord Ahmad during his visit in August at a Chevening Reception hosted at the British High Commission</li> <li>Alumni were invited to attend the awarding of the first Singapore Commonwealth Scholarships and Fellowships in Innovation hosted at the British High Commissioner's residence</li> <li>British High Commission Fiji included Commonwealth Scholar in Chevening pre-departure event</li> <li>British High Commission Barbados included Commonwealth Scholars in Chevening pre-departure event</li> <li>British High Commission Mozambique included Commonwealth Scholars in a Chevening welcome home event in November</li> <li>British High Commission in Barbados included Commonwealth Scholars at a Commonwealth Big Lunch in March alongside Chevening Scholars and other stakeholders. Plans are in place to include Commonwealth Scholars in future Chevening pre-departure events</li> <li>British High Commission in Cameroon included the coordinator of the alumni association in Cameroon at a Commonwealth Big Lunch</li> <li>Alumni were invited alongside Chevening Scholars to attend a panel discussion on science and innovation led by Prof. Robin Grimes, Chief Scientific Adviser to the FCO, and hosted at the British High Commissioner's residence</li> </ul>
12.	Engagement Strategy completed and implemented	KPI met	Engagement strategy approved at December 2017 Commission meeting. New Communications Officer recruited and started in April 2018; new Communications and Engagement Officer recruited and started in June 2018
13.	Review of Balance of CSC Programmes commenced	KPI met	A review of the balance of CSC's Scholarships programmes was undertaken as part of the review of CSC's Strategy. A separate review of Fellowships programmes has been carried out by the Awards Policy Committee and a review of the Split-Site Scholarship Scheme is underway

# Statement of income and expenditure

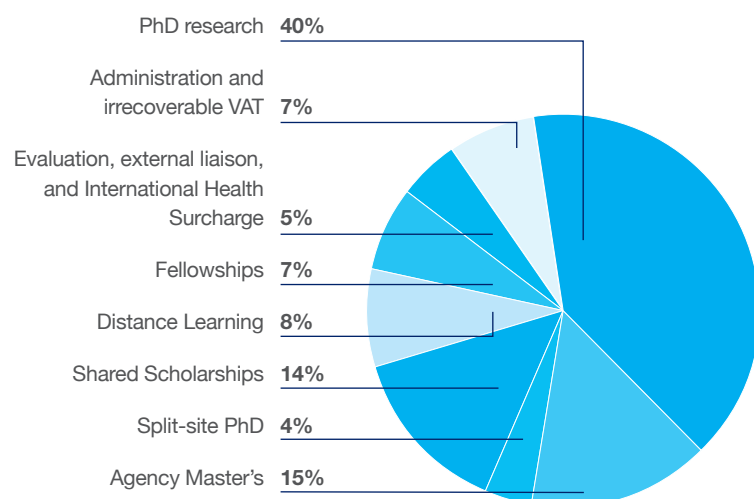
for the year ended 31 March 2018

	2017/2018		2016/2017		% change year-on-year
	£000	% in-year	£000	% in-year	
DFID Grant-in-aid programme	23,628	90%	23,628	92%	0%
DFID Grant-in-aid admin	1,624	6%	1,594	6%	2%
DFE Grant-in-aid programme	415	2%	415	2%	0%
BEIS Grant-in-aid programme	601	2%			
<b>Total Grant-in-aid to CSC</b>	<b>26,268</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>25,637</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>2%</b>
<b>DFID PROGRAMME EXPENDITURE</b>					
<b>Scholarships</b>					
PhD research	10,195	43%	9,852	42%	3%
Agency Master's	3,867	16%	5,033	21%	(23%)
Split-site PhD	965	4%	618	3%	56%
Shared Scholarships	3,662	16%	3,306	14%	11%
Distance Learning	2,214	9%	2,314	10%	(4%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>20,903</b>		<b>21,123</b>		<b>(1%)</b>
<b>Fellowships</b>					
Academic	440	2%	377	2%	17%
Professional	889	4%	635	3%	40%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,329</b>		<b>1,012</b>		<b>31%</b>
<b>OTHER PROGRAMME EXPENDITURE</b>					
Evaluation	232	1%	244	1%	(5%)
External Liaison	565	2%	455	2%	24%
British Council	237	1%	290	1%	(18%)
Other costs	153	1%	196	1%	(22%)
VAT	158	1%	155	1%	2%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,345</b>		<b>1,340</b>		<b>0%</b>
<b>DFID Programme Expenditure</b>	<b>23,577</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>23,475</b>	<b>100%</b>	
<b>OGD AWARDS EXPENDITURE</b>					
DFE Grant-in-aid (PhD research)	388	45%	360	100%	8%
BEIS Grant-in-aid (Fellowship research)	469	55%			
<b>OGD Awards Expenditure (Total)</b>	<b>857</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>360</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>138%</b>
<b>CSC ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENDITURE (DFID)</b>					
Commission Costs via ACU	128	8%	107	7%	20%
ACU Management Fees	1,154	72%	1,154	72%	0%
BC Management Fees	67	4%	74	5%	(9%)
VAT	254	16%	259	16%	(2%)
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,603</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,594</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1%</b>
<b>PROGRAMME MANAGEMENT COSTS (OGD)</b>					
ACU management Fee BEIS	91	61%			
ACU management Fee DFE	33	22%	33	83%	0%
VAT	26	17%	7	18%	271%
<b>Total</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>275%</b>
DFID Programme Expenditure	23,577	90%	23,475	92%	0%
OGD Awards Expenditure	857	3%	360	1%	138%
CSC Administrative Expenditure (DFID)	1,603	6%	1,594	6%	1%
OGD Programme Management Costs	150	1%	40	0%	275%
<b>Total CSC Expenditure</b>	<b>26,187</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>25,469</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>3%</b>
Increase in Cash and Cash Equivalents	415		(282)		
Increase in Trade Payables	(334)		450		
<b>Total</b>	<b>26,268</b>		<b>25,637</b>		

Figures in brackets are negative numbers

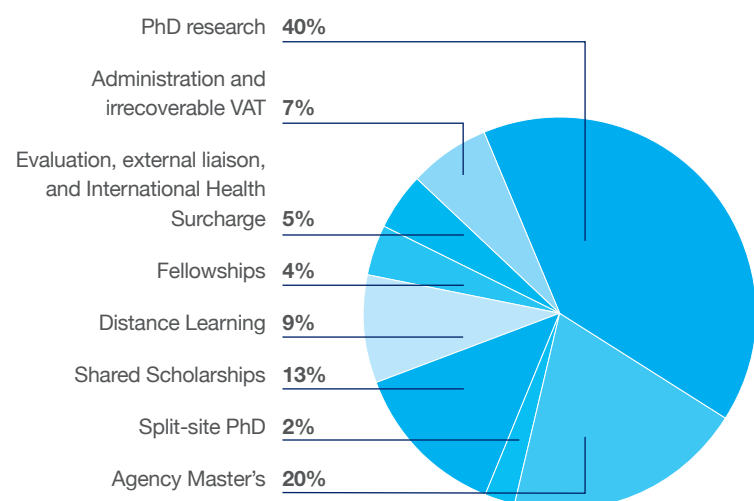
# Notes

## 2017/2018



1. These figures were consolidated in DFID's audited Annual Report and Accounts 2017/18.
2. The CSC also engaged independent auditors to inspect the statement that the CSC submitted to DFID. This work found no exceptions to what was expected.
3. This activity is managed by the Commonwealth Scholarship Commission in the United Kingdom.
4. In 2017/18, funds from DfE and BEIS were channelled through DFID, in line with government practice. Funding for PhD research from DfE in 2017/18 replaced funding from BEIS in 2016/17 for the same activity. BEIS provided separate funding in 2017/18 for a new programme of Commonwealth Rutherford Fellowships.

## 2016/2017



5. The increase in programme management costs in respect of Other Government Department (OGD) funding relate to the Commonwealth Rutherford Fellowships.
6. The CSC holds no fixed assets.
7. The CSC employs no staff.
8. Administration costs in respect of the DFID Grant-in-aid, before adding VAT, remained at 5.3% of DFID expenditure in 2017/2018.
9. The contribution of UK Universities to CSC programmes, through maintenance payments and tuition fees, was a further £4.65m. Such partnership contributions increase the number of awards available.
10. Having no VATable outputs, the CSC is not registered for VAT so cannot reclaim VAT on any of its inputs.







Commonwealth Scholarship  
Commission in the UK



COMMONWEALTH  
SCHOLARSHIPS

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United Kingdom

[www.dfid.gov.uk/cscuk](http://www.dfid.gov.uk/cscuk)