Results of Electronic Consultation for Research Strategy 2008-2013

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1 Summary

This report presents the findings drawn from the global electronic consultation on the proposed new research strategy which will provide one of a number of background documents feeding into this strategy. A total of 607 responses, which comprised free text, were received with the highest number of responses coming from the UK, Africa and Asia. These were subjected to a four stage analysis following removal of identifying data: reading all text, extracting key statements for each question, clustering these to develop answers to the questions and, where these did not directly fit, extracting common categories appropriate to the question concerned.

While individual questions and research themes generated responses that were of relevance to the particular question concerned these are not reiterated in this summary but may be read in the full report. It is interesting to note that questions one – four, which embrace the current major research themes of DFID, generated both the largest number of responses out of which the largest number of key statements were extracted.

Several categories which emerged were repeated across most of the questions. The recommendations arising from these which should be taken into account in developing the strategy are:

- continue with research in all the main themes;
- make meaningful links between research into each of these themes rather than treating them in isolation;
- address issues of governance in conducting research or applying research findings into practice;
- involve those at grass roots level in all stages of research and dissemination;

- carry out research which focuses on the effectiveness of traditional practices in a modern age;
- ensure that in-country capacity for carrying out and implementing research findings is developed;
- continue to draw on the experience of developed countries;
- learn lessons from newly emerging economies;
- develop long and short term partnerships with relevant other funding authorities;
- avoid duplication of work but draw on existing research;
- ensure that all research contains a clear communications strategy;
- ensure that research findings are disseminated into action.

Although a transparent, valid process has been utilised in the analysis of this questionnaire to ensure that all voices have been heard, as with all research there are limitations. In analysing the questions respondents have perhaps inevitably focused on their own particular professional areas of interest. This was especially noticeable in questions five to thirteen which had a general rather than discipline specific focus. Another limitation is that many respondents focused on the sub questions presented in the consultation document when presenting their ideas. Finally because of the nature of responses it has not been possible to cite all respondents in the report.

2 Introduction and background

The Department for International Development (DFID) has been canvassing opinion to help it develop a new research strategy. The new strategy will start in April 2008 and replace the Research Funding Framework 2005–2007. The Government's 2006 White Paper *Making Governance Work for the Poor*

emphasises the importance of importance of new technologies, knowledge and evidence-based policies for development setting out that these are fundamental to growth and poverty reduction. Consultation on the new strategy has taken place in three main ways, each of which will provide background information for the new strategy:

- face-to-face discussions in seven DFID partner countries;
- joint discussions with key research stakeholders in the UK;
- an electronic questionnaire to get a wide range of views from people interested in development research in the UK, the general international community and more specifically those in developing countries.

This report presents the findings drawn from the electronic questionnaire which contained 13 questions soliciting open responses of a qualitative nature. The process of analysis is first outlined to indicate the validity of the approach taken. Demographic data is then presented, followed by the findings and conclusions drawn from the research.

3 Data analysis

Separate documents for each question were drawn up in the form of tables with three columns. In the first column the respondent number was entered in accordance with the "Survey Monkey" -generated numbers from 1-579. Email responses were numbered from 580-607. All responses from "Survey Monkey" or from email attachments were then copied verbatim into the second column. As the respondents who used email sometimes answered in a general way rather than addressing specific questions, a preliminary analysis of their contributions was carried out so that it could be decided what part of their answer was most relevant to which question. As with those who had completed the on-line survey, not every question was addressed by every respondent.

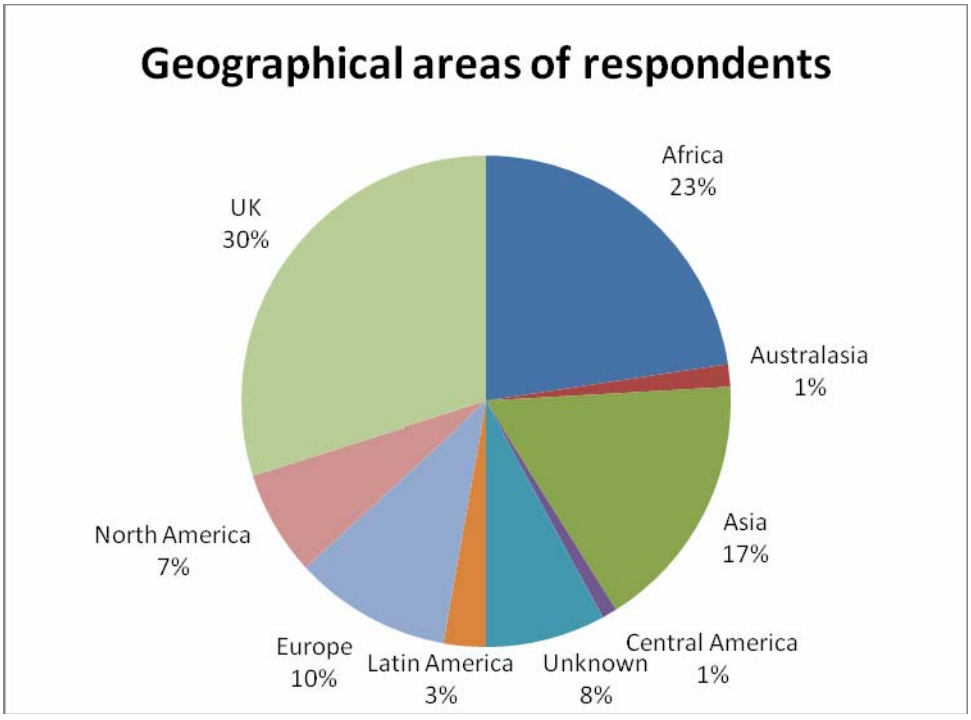
Some respondents answered questions in one to two sentences, while others wrote several pages. In order to ensure that every respondent was treated equally, a content analysis was carried out of each response and from this where possible using respondents' own words, key statements were derived. These statements were chosen as they particularly focused on answering the question rather than providing examples of their own experiences, which have however been noted and where appropriate entered into the commentary on each question. These were entered into the third column of

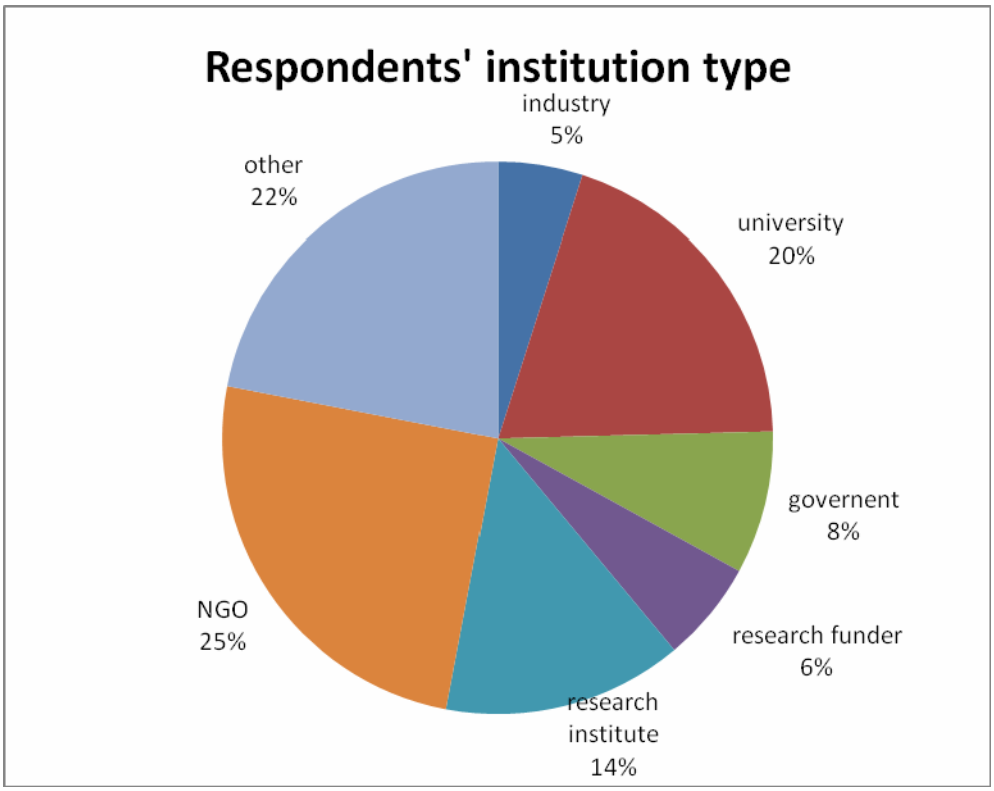
each table. Thus for question one, to which 166 responses were received, 500 key statements were extracted.

Step two involved entering the key statements into another document together with their respondent identification numbers. These were then grouped together into common themes. For each main question where sub-questions had been generated by those designing the survey, these key statements were first examined for relevance to them. The third step involved deriving categories from the responses in relation to each of the sub-questions. Those left over were then subjected to a further level of analysis to search for commonalities within them and so derive further categories. It is these four levels that form the basis of this report. It is cautioned, however that these categories are not mutually exclusive and at times key statements could fit into more than one sub-question. The main conclusions reached are first stated then followed by examples from respondents which illustrate these conclusions.

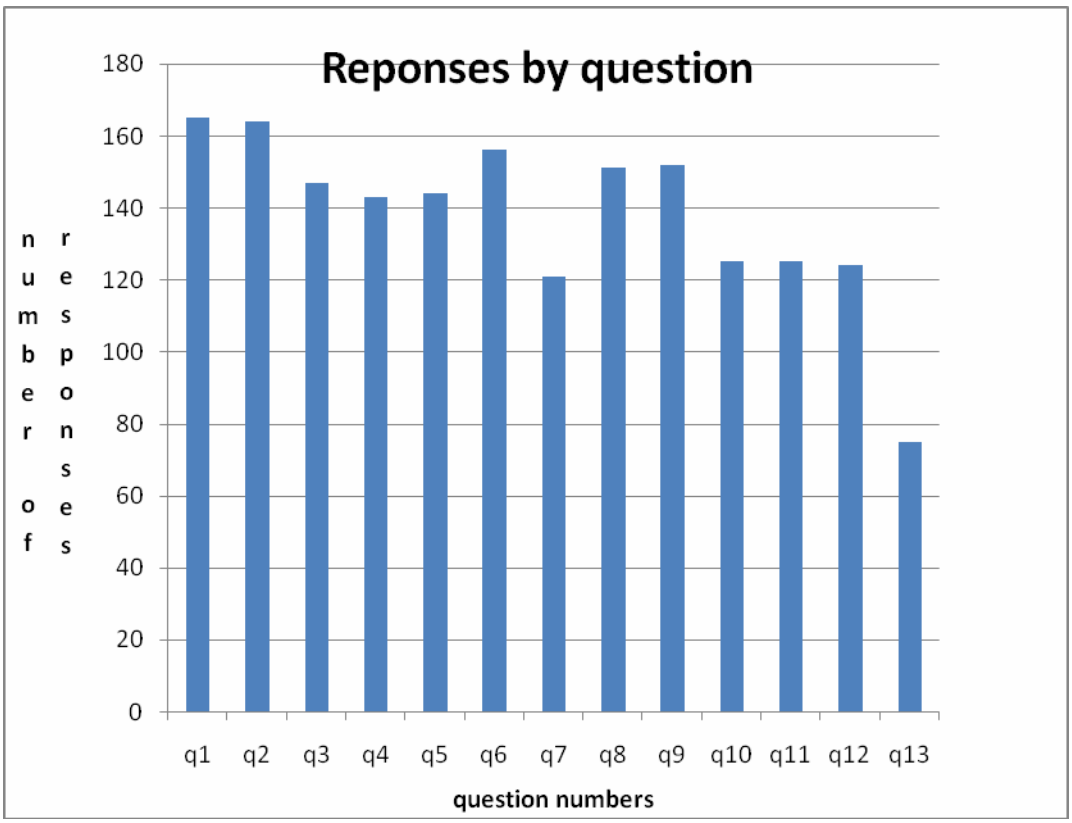
4 Respondents

A total of 607 respondents representing all geographical areas of the world accessed the survey. 579 responses were made using the on-line survey tool and the remaining 28 were submitted by email. Figure 1.1 shows the geographical spread of the respondents and figure 1.2 the types of institution they represent.




Respondents' institution type
industry
5%
university
20%
governent
8%
research funder
6%
research
institute
14%
NGO
25%
other
22%

Due to the diverse nature of the questions the majority of respondents answered only those which were relevant to their own areas of expertise. A breakdown of the number of responses to each question is shown in figure 1.3 below.



5 Findings

5.1 Question one

5.1.1 How can DFID build on its work on sustainable agriculture and develop its work on economic opportunities and growth?

As outlined in the graph above, this question attracted 166 responses from which 500 key statements were generated. All except 25 of these key statements fitted into the eight sub-questions identified although it became

difficult at times to differentiate between responses to sub-questions two and eight.

5.1.2 How can African economies best diversify to achieve the 7% annual growth needed to attain the Millennium Development Goals?

Three key categories emerged from key responses to this sub-question; **the need for cooperation between various players** (n =21), **broadening productivity** (n = 18) and **sustainability** (n = 20) .

While several respondents simply said **the need for cooperation between various players** was important or that a wide range of partners needed to be found, others provided examples; respondent 177 for example pointing out the need for farmers to be connected to input and output markets so that they could diversify into high value crops; while respondents 123 and 517 emphasised the need to link business with broad social objectives. National systems of innovation were raised by several respondents with respondent 524 stating that a network of innovation system thinkers and practitioners would not only share experiences but further understanding of the issues concerned. It was suggested by several respondents that agriculture needed to be linked with much wider programmes and specifically to developing countries' reforms (respondent 400). Sharing of experiences within Africa and between Africa and other countries was also a strong theme with organisations such as the EU (495, 496) and NWML (400) being specifically named. The role of the media was also mentioned by some respondents as useful in promoting ideas and disseminating information.

Broadening productivity was the other major category raised in this sub-question. Twenty key statements simply said this was important while others (n=35) had differing ideas. The most commonly proposed were fairer distributional policies and better governance, (101, 108, 533, 595, 601) while others suggested that specific problems ought to be addressed as they arose. (74, 570) Respondent 558 warned of the need to develop a deeper and more operational understanding of sustainability. Several respondents also identified that there needs to be a willingness of all involved to make changes which respond to market needs. (48, 517, 522) The risks involved with this were cited by several respondents with respondent 541 succinctly stating that trade-offs had to be dealt with and difficult choices made and respondent 561 cautioning that change had to be based on evidence. Other respondents discussed the economic policies of the entire region (97), the need for microfinance to reduce risk (517) and the potential for complementary currencies. (520, 591)

Sustainability was the final topic of this sub-question. Again several respondents simply emphasised its importance without further elaboration but others offered potential ways forward, such as equitable trade (595),

comprehensive programmes linking income generation to water, health education and agriculture (273), related knowledge management and training activities (524) and finally the assisting of communities to attain their basic human rights (348).

Specific ideas for research only came from three respondents with respondent 94 proposing participatory research, 196 proposing balanced, system wide research and 582 suggesting that research questions should be developed in the area of transitions, commercialisation, diversification and futures and providing many useful examples to support this.

5.1.3 What technological innovations can best raise agricultural productivity and what policy reforms and infrastructure can make agriculture more competitive?

There appeared to be no major consensus in key responses to this sub question. However two categories did emerge; **use simple and low-cost technologies** (n = 33) and **the use of water** (n = 28).

Respondents highlighted the need to **use simple and low-cost technologies** when commenting on concerning technological innovations but most failed to elaborate on their responses**.** Where reasons were given to support the answers these varied. Respondent 516 said that low cost technology could be highly effective and used rainwater storage as an example of this. The idea of improved transport and support for indigenous crop production was also raised by several respondents**.** The use of improved information systems and of the internet were ideas that rarely featured.

The **use of water** was another key response in this area with respondents mainly focusing on the need for improved irrigation systems, although respondent 600 said that the need for deficit irrigation and management of irrigation schemes needed to take into account both production and equity. (NB water was the key focus of the policy section of this question and will be raised again in that section of this report.)

Strategic suggestions for research were to set out: a framework of what sustainable agriculture could be defined to be; what its indicators would be and where the bridgeable knowledge and application gaps lie (594).Other suggestions for research included the development of animal vaccines (395, 480), the promotion of bio-agriculture (325) and the genetic improvement of yields (373).

5.1.4 Policy reforms and infrastructure

This sub-question generated a large number of extremely varied key statements. The main categories raised were; water (n = 23), **land tenure** (n = 27); **diversification** (n = 23) and the **need for a coordinated approach** (n = 22)

Respondents stressed the need for policy development and change in the area of **water**. The need to change the way water is considered was a common response as was the need to secure water supplies for all and the need to improve the quality of water. Again few proposals were made as to how these should be achieved but three respondents made a link to the specific issues of fisheries (587, 599, 601). Respondent 283 suggested that the natural resources of water, food, energy and salt could be linked by integrated complexes.

Land tenure was also raised by several respondents as an issue that policy makers need to consider. Respondent 528 sums this up by suggesting that there needs to be a focus on small and medium scale primary processing and education to ensure that this can happen.

Diversification was the third major category to emerge in this sub-question and this appeared to be coupled with capacity building to ensure that diversification could be achieved. Respondent 562 pointed out the need to ensure that developing countries have the capacity to handle such debates in a constructive and transparent manner while respondent 584 highlighted the need to build links between agricultural development and a sustainable transition to industrial development, particularly in the context of current world market conditions in terms of increasing trade competition. Respondent 570 cautioned that capacity building needed to be linked adequately to resources to allow diversification to happen.

The **need for a coordinated approach** was the last category in this sub-question with respondent 594 suggesting a balanced emphasis on domestic economies and several others mentioning the need for multi-disciplinary research involving all stakeholders, including policy makers. As with the technology section of this sub-question, many respondents emphasised the need to keep things simple.

5.1.5 The impact of climate change on sustainable economic growth in Africa

Responses to this question were limited in number but it must be noted that parts of this question are duplicated in question four, where respondents have given somewhat fuller answers. Likewise some of the key statements are duplicates of those in sub-question 1.2, although presented in a slightly different context. Three categories emerged; **conservation of water and irrigation** (n = 30), **development of new crops** (n = 25), **prediction of changing weather patterns and dissemination of this information to farmers** (n = 24)

To address the category of **conservation of water and irrigation** respondents stressed the need to adapt methods to respond to changing climate patterns (94). The need for simple technologies was again emphasised with respondent 541 urging that yesterday's irrigation must be adapted to tomorrow's needs.

The need for **wider management of natural resources** was also highlighted, with most respondents simply saying this was necessary. Respondent 570, however, noted that strategic work needs to be done in this area and that the effects of climate change may be mitigated, while respondent 597 linked the effective mitigation of environmental and natural resource degradation with increased productivity.

The **development of new crops** was a further key issue that respondents focused upon with some respondents urging the need for field (rather than laboratory) research in this area. The issue was summed up by respondent 517 who said that research was needed to develop maintain and improve the crops best-suited to surviving new conditions, whether staples for subsistence, traditional commodity crops or new crops.

The final category to emerge in this area was that of **prediction of changing weather patterns and dissemination of this information to farmers.** Respondent 562 emphasised the latter point saying that more needed to be done to disseminate relevant information through intermediary organisations while respondent 293 said that communities had to be encouraged to respond to changing environmental conditions. Respondent 582 provided many potential research questions:

> (1) **Science and innovation**: What technological research and investments are needed to stabilise crop yields across variable weather conditions? Examples could include: new varietals that are better adapted to erratic rainfall, rather than maximising yields under optimal weather conditions; innovative approaches to soil and water conservation, irrigation, rainwater harvesting and groundwater management. This is an old agenda, but one for which new solutions and new innovation pathways must be urgently found. This requires both good science and effective governance of innovation systems to ensure

that science and technology efforts meet the needs of the poor living in complex, diverse and risk-prone settings.

(2) **Social protection**: How can synergies be maximised between the emerging social protection agenda and agriculture? The evidence base is growing on agriculture-linked social protection interventions such as free input distribution, input subsidies and inputs-for-work, but more comparative analysis is needed on poverty impacts, links to growth and cost-effectiveness across these and other interventions, specifically on the ways in which new thinking on social protection can contribute to improved risk management and risk reduction for small farmers.

(3) **Seasonality**: The annual 'hungry season' that confronts millions of smallholder families across Africa and South Asia every year is an under-reported food, livelihoods and health crisis that receives too little policy attention. How can agricultural policies and social protection interventions in rural areas be better focused on addressing the specific vulnerabilities that are presented by seasonality in agricultural production, household income and consumption, and disease vectors?

5.1.6 How can governments promote the right kinds of education and technical skills for the world of work?

Three strong categories emerged in response to this sub-question, **access to education** (n = 23), **capacity building** (n = 22) and **elimination of corruption and the improvement of governance** (n = 22).

Access to education was emphasised at all levels from pre-primary school to post graduate studies with several respondents stressing the need to work at grass-roots level while others focused on finding the gaps in education and filling them. Two responses (520,591) illustrate the need for cooperation between the education, private and voluntary sectors to increase access to education. Respondent 528 pointed out the need for research into how best to invest in young farmers so that they could later support the development of grass-roots farmers' organisations and respondent 524 suggested a series of educational pilots to focus on solving multi-disciplinary problems.

The above category was strongly linked with this the second category in this area, that of **capacity building**. However, responses in this category went further than simply education in itself and on to the following through of graduate programmes and remarked that capacity building should not only include the young but also disenfranchised groups such as women and the disabled, with respondent 498 stating that such a policy would help ensure that labour markets provided opportunities for all. Other respondents suggested that research funding could go towards building research

departments and teams or working with specific institutions to support researchers to realise the benefits of their research (568).

The third category that emerged was the **elimination of corruption and the improvement of governance.** Several respondents simply stated that corruption needs to be eliminated but others suggested the need for risk analyses to be undertaken that focus on eliminating areas of weak, inadequate or corrupt governance. Specific research questions raised were how macro-politics can affect local economies (498) and whether ethical sourcing can and should be developed further (123).

A fourth and weaker category in this area was that of **cooperation** within regions and with other governments (n = 10). However the corollary to this was the need to research and incorporate local socio-cultural norms.

5.1.7 Population dynamics and growth in Africa - what impact does migration and increasing urbanisation have on sustainable growth?

Two categories emerged under this sub-question. These were somewhat polarised in nature; the first focusing on how to **create and maintain a good standard of living in the rural areas** (n = 16) and the second focusing on **urban migration as inevitable** (n = 16). There was general agreement however that research that addressed migration, urbanisation and the wider growth agenda needed to be supported.

Creating and maintaining a good standard of living in rural areas. As with other sub-questions, land and water rights featured strongly in this category as did the problems of subsistence farming. Likewise there were pleas to slow down rural-urban migration and to provide opportunities for the poor to generate income. However there were also calls to carry out research before any reforms were made and to link this to policies and their effects on rural workers (584). Respondent 580 suggested the development of mechanisms to avoid livelihood degradation and the securing of a sustainable resource base through value addition and better capture of resource rent. Synergy between on- and off-farm activities was also called for with research being urged into how migration and remittances could better support small farm investment (528, 584) and into what opportunities would produce the best investment in rural areas (597). Gender dimensions of migration were also mentioned by several respondents although not explored in any detail.

Several respondents took the idea of **migration as inevitable** as their starting position and commented that migrants had to be made to feel comfortable in cities, opportunities provided for them to settle in new locations and new market found. They recommended that studies should look at the impact of urbanisation in reducing rural poverty (443, 454).

5.1.8 What policies are needed for pro-poor growth in fragile states?

Only one category emerged under this sub-question; that of **ensuring the poor are primary beneficiaries** (n = 22)**.** As with previous sub-questions this was for the most part simply stated. However there were some practical suggestions, for example the development of integrated resource management tools to optimise economic returns (580), the use of a bottom-up approach to ensure farmers' participation in research (466) and the examination of how contract farming and outgrowing schemes could be used more imaginatively to help small scale farmers achieve higher prices (492). Suggestions for research were limited to the use of different approaches such as economic, action or social research. Respondent 409 identified that it was necessary to learn about the determinants of structural and poverty conditions so that collective action and social organisation could be better tailored.

5.1.9 How to ensure labour markets provide opportunities for all, including women.

As with section 5.1.8 above respondents stated strongly that opportunities must be provided for all. The two emergent categories were **youth** (n = 13) and **education for women** (n = 14)**.**

Youth emerged strongly as a category with respondents favouring the marshalling of political and economic arguments for increased investment in youth. Respondent 128 suggested that funding should be directed to action research projects into the success or otherwise of youth-led start-up businesses, while respondent 520 called for replication studies and the transfer of findings to a number of youth development programmes.

Despite it being mentioned in the sub-question itself there were fewer key statements that related to women. The issue of **education for women** so that they can enter the workforce and contribute to the economy of a country emerged as a fairly weak category with some respondents suggesting that this could be achieved through specific enterprises such as promoting small enterprises (517)and system based research (359).

5.1.10 How can developing countries harness new technologies and investment to accelerate growth?

This sub-question generated a number of responses which mainly fell into two categories; **the future use of ICT** (n = 26) and **investment and research into the development of new technologies specific to the agricultural sector** (n = 22).

The first of these categories was **the future use of ICT,** with many respondents stipulating that networks had to be built and education produced to ensure that access to latest ICT would be available for all. Conversely some respondents urged caution as exemplified by respondent 599 who said that current and future issues in a country must be identified and specific adaptation strategies introduced to ensure sustainability and respondent by 584 who sought assurances that the development of ICTs would not increase the rich/poor divide. The transferability of ICT was also a major feature.

The **investment and research into the development of new technologies specific to the agricultural sector** generated mixed responses, in that some focused on the need for specific, new technologies to be placed in the wider context while others called for investment and research into topics such as rice paddies and breeding sites for mosquitoes and highlighted the need for new technologies to combat this or further developments in bio fuels. Respondent 395 captures the flavour of these responses by saying that the most important way of disseminating new technologies was by forming academic rather than commercial links.

5.2 Question two

5.2.1 How can DFID improve research on "killer diseases" and healthcare and develop its work on building the capabilities of individuals and families for a better life?

This question generated 165 responses from which 516 key statements were extracted. Unlike the responses to question one however these generally did not address the key issues outlined in the consultation document. In particular the first sub-question linking children's education to HIV/AIDS generated little response, although there were many responses on HIV/AIDS itself. While the sub-questions are addressed in this report, the bulk of the responses have been subjected to a further level of analysis and other categories derived, all of which are discussed in the ensuing sections.

5.2.2 Children's education and HIV and AIDS

Sixty key statements responded to this sub-question. Fourteen of these acknowledged its importance but did not elaborate further. Two main categories were derived: **Provide education at all levels** (n = 34) and **Childhood and youth education** (n = 32).

The need to **provide education at all levels** was stressed by several respondents. In particular it was felt important that education of whole communities was undertaken and that this was linked to work and policy reforms (112, 129). Women were considered as key educators and it was pointed out by some respondents that care needed to be taken in the type of materials that were directed at women's education (565) so that these were meaningful. The need for prevention of the spread of disease was also widely discussed with several respondents stipulating the need for public/primary health care approaches. Respondent 496 stated that it was vital to improve health and sanitation standards and respondent 520 pointed out that innovative partnerships between governments, inter-governmental organisations, NGOs and the private sector were needed to increase the availability of social support systems to help to address the issues of healthy lifestyle and HIV prevalence. The need for research in this area was also advocated by several respondents with respondent 603 exemplifying these responses by suggesting that research into health, education, science and economics needed to be linked if improvements were to be made. Respondent 520 called for research into alternatives to institutional care.

Childhood and youth education was described as important but little was offered in the way of strategic direction. Primary school education for all was highlighted and several respondents indicated that HIV awareness should be a mandatory part of the curriculum. Some respondents also indicated that pre-primary education in this area was important as children at this age would be ready to learn. Evaluation of programmes was also stressed as necessary with action research being suggested as an appropriate methodology to research effectiveness of such programmes (520). Complementary to this was the suggestion that any research into killer diseases must include an education component (565), in this case directed at the children concerned. A final issue suggested by several respondents was the introduction of research amongst young people regarding the most suitable employment so that they would be occupied and learn from older mentors. In tandem with that specific suggestion for research was that together with the companies in which they may already be working, partnership programmes are developed for older children to ensure behavioural change (520).

5.2.3 How women's incomes affect the survival and nutrition of their children

Forty eight key statements were extracted from the data in relation to this sub-question. Nine reiterated its importance without further elaboration. The

remaining 39 fell into three categories: **water provision** (n = 13); **education of women** (n=11) and **support/inclusion of women** (n = 15).

Water provision was argued by respondents to affect women and children directly although few of their statements could immediately be related to the actual sub-question of women's incomes. Respondent 239 did highlight this relationship, pointing out that essential services such as water were necessary if women were to be able to contribute more meaningfully to the local economy. Respondent 551 suggested that the link was even stronger, noting how the impact of water on food production directly affects access to food and thus nutrition.

Respondents highlighting the need for the **education of women** focused primarily on the area of reproductive health, with respondent 61 urging that women be educated on safe sexual practices and 291 being more specific, saying that more research needed to be carried out on developing a female condom. The dissemination of research already carried out in this area was also mentioned as important with respondent 580 saying that women needed to be educated from research carried out with other occupational groups exhibiting behaviours that put them at risk of sexually transmitted infections. However, respondent 584 suggested that educational research needed to focus on a broader definition of women's workloads including paid and unpaid work while respondent 528 said that women needed to be educated on the potential dangers of the fast food industry.

The category **support/inclusion of women** generated diverse responses. However these were mainly research-focused with recommendations to carry out research on developing simple systems which can be implemented by women to reduce levels of malnutrition (584), to ensure that accurate demographic data reflected women and could be used in designing future public policy (533) and to study the effects of ill health of women in relation to income and family life (34, 118). A call from respondent 519 specifies the need for more social research on health-seeking behaviour and on the impact of broader social determinants of health such as gender inequality. This was supported by several other responses.

5.2.4 The politics of making childbirth safer

Forty three key statements were extracted under this sub-question with 16 of these stressing the importance of the topic or reinforcing the need for the relevant Millennium Development Goal to be achieved. As with other questions it was urged that DFID take note of successes in other countries with respondent 586 citing Malaysia and Sri Lanka in particular. The three main categories generated were: **appropriate infrastructure/staffing** (n= 13);

integration of culturally appropriate practices (n=7) and **improved access to family planning** (n=7).

Respondents commenting on the need for **appropriate infrastructure and staffing** were unanimous that there needed to be urgent action taken to scale up numbers of health workers. Most of these commented on the need for more community health workers working in the primary health care setting, with several pointing out that research had already been done in this area, although two respondents said that works still needed to be done on seeking optimal staff/patient ratios. Respondent 525 suggested that existing research needed to be built upon so that barriers to integrate the community health workers into the health system are overcome and respondent 565 supported this, suggesting that such research would increase the capacity of researchers as well as improve the outcome for women and children. Respondent 129 pointed out that the media could be very useful in supporting such a campaign. Two respondents also suggested the need for better transportation to hospitals.

The **integration of culturally-appropriate practices** generated unanimous responses: that local practices needed to be incorporated into the health care system and that there needed to be research carried out into the use of local remedies. However respondent 463 warned that research in this area needed to be both cost-effective and sustainable. As respondent 97 pointed out, this research should not be as an alternative to but to complement modern health systems. Respondents 586 and 463 suggested that both of these areas are much in need of further research.

Improved access to family planning did not generate a large number of key statements but those that were received were saying the same thing. Most simply stated that there needs to be more implementation of research findings in this area but respondent 348 linked this with the previous sub-question saying that spaced or reduced childbearing and the increase of women's earnings can translate into improved quality of life for women and children.

5.2.5 Other responses

Three hundred and sixty five responses did not deal directly with the above questions so were subjected to further examination to seek commonalities. Forty six percent (n = 171) of these key statements, while of interest, were "one offs" appearing to reflect the interests of the respondent concerned and so were not able to be further categorised. Five categories emerged from the remainder of responses: **health care systems** (n = 16), **primary health care** (n = 61), **HIV/AIDS** (n=20)**, disease prevention** (n = 51),and **partnerships/interdisciplinary research** (n = 46).

Heath care systems

Several respondents suggested that until recognised health care systems were in place, the health of nations would not improve as their populations simply would not have the ability to access services. Various respondents suggested different kinds of systems rather than potential research areas but respondent 564 stated that targeted research is needed to understand health systems. Respondent 60 took this further by stating that there is a need to move away from disease specific research to planned, long-term research into health policies, health systems and social determinants. This respondent further suggested that these are the measures through which aid can be directed and impact measured more effectively. Respondent 525 urged the need for strong management in health care systems, through which the impact of the involvement of communities in accessing and analysing health data at community level could be measured. Respondent 564 took this a stage further by suggesting a key research question be focused in finding out what community health eco-systems (comprising a mix of poverty, nutrition, maternal and child health, explanations and practices around wellness and illness, economic options, traditional and modern health and nutrition service delivery, and community processes of reflection and dialogue) have an impact on the health and well-being of individuals in a particular place. This also has a strong link to the category of primary health care which will be explored next.

Primary Health Care was raised by respondents from many disciplines as the initial step to be taken towards improving health on national and regional levels. Several respondents commented on the basic principles of primary health care such as the need for clean water, sanitation and basic education. Respondent 564 provided an illustration of this by urging that community stakeholder groups are engaged in new health approaches, to understand individual/family concerns and desires related to health services, and to develop health education and communication strategies. Most of these ideas were not elaborated further but respondent 510 highlighted the need for research and policymaking to engage with the work of grass-roots healthcare practitioners, and value their locally-based knowledge. Respondent 409 suggested that there was a need to decide whether or not basic sanitation, water treatment and cooking procedures and other public health practices should have priority for improving health indices in Africa.

The links between Primary Health Care and **disease prevention** were stressed by some respondents such as 510 who pointed out cost-effective and sustainable ways to prevent illness and death through non-medical interventions, including understanding non-health interventions that yield the co-benefit of disease prevention. The identification of risk areas for some diseases was also highlighted by respondents as vital for future elimination of

the diseases concerned as summed up by respondent 583 who, focusing on malaria, said that research had to focus on remotely identifying and monitoring the environmental conditions that promote the infection agent for example the extent of habitats that encourage mosquitoes.

Most respondents addressing this category spoke of the need to continue work in developing new vaccines. This was exemplified by respondent 585 who pointed out that applied research to address key scientific constraints, such as the challenge of finding a vaccine capable of eliciting broadly neutralizing antibodies; and translational research and design of novel vaccine concepts were both vital. Respondent 601 suggested that skill centres in vaccine generation may be best developed locally, not only producing vaccines but reducing the cost of production and transferring the technology. Respondent 395 supported this stance but pointed out the need for public-private partnerships for vaccine development and anti-virals which could be exploited. The category of **partnerships** is explored further in this section.

While diseases such as malaria and tuberculosis in particular were discussed as well as the need to look towards future diseases, **HIV/AIDS** remains the major concern for respondents to this consultation. Most emphasised the need to continue seeking a cure, to provide cheaper drugs or to disseminate information more widely. Respondent 590 highlights the last point saying that it is necessary to research how best to reach the needy such as HIV / AIDS patients who do not have access to anti-retroviral drugs. Respondent 445 commented that society needed to have a better understanding of the conditions and triggers for rural HIV exposure and respondent 447 took this a stage further, stressing that multi-disciplinary research in low-income countries that recognises the wider, multi-faceted social and environmental context in which disease is transmitted needs to be supported.

Partnerships at various levels were outlined with regard to all of the above themes. Often cited was the need for donors or funding agencies to work with on-the-ground organisations such as NGOs or local health services, with respondent 520 summarising this as the need to create innovative partnerships between governments, intergovernmental organisations, NGOs and the private sector to increase the availability of social support systems. Respondent 454 took this a stage further, highlighting how this could be a topic in itself for research by using new participatory, risk-assessment approaches to identify key risks and strategies and engage appropriate local partners to address them. Respondent 525 warned that to make partnerships work, links between research systems, institutions, governments and communities need to be facilitated in order to enable the engagement of communities with the health systems so strengthening research agendas.

The need for ongoing support of **Product Development Public-Private Partnerships** was stressed by many respondents with respondent 536 stressing that such an approach was both low-cost and effective and respondent 559 calling for direct funding for such a model. A warning came from respondent 363 who said that in order to guarantee access to PDP products and achieve public health impact, much more information was required from the countries involved.

5.3 Question three

5.3.1 How can DFID improve research into good governance, including social and policy design areas?

Three hundred and forty four key statements were generated from 145 responses to this question. As with question two, while all of these were directly relevant to the question concerned, 34% (n = 118) did not specifically address the three major areas. These responses have thus been analysed to seek emergent categories which are reported in this section and are reported in section 5.3.5.

5.3.2 Research into fragile and post-conflict states, where there is only patchy evidence about how development works

The responses to this question fitted to some extent with the categories given in the background document: **post-conflict justice and state building** (n = 26) and **promotion of accountable state and non-state service providers** (n = 19).

Post-conflict justice and state building was seen as important by respondents but just as important was the need to research the prevention of conflict. Several respondents pointed out that it was vital to learn from other countries' experiences. This was succinctly summarised by respondent 550 who said that there needed to be context-specific research in countries that have come through periods of violent conflict and are now in the process of building new structures, and by respondent 118 who pointed out that it was necessary to carry out a careful empirical assessment of recent conflict policies and their contribution to prevention of as well as recovery from conflict, and to learn from failures as well as successes. While comments such as the above may also be transferable to state building, respondent 582 went a step further and called for detailed studies of governance issues in each country where significant change is being attempted, and for comparison between countries to discern what may be generalised. Justice mechanisms already in place as well as those which might be imported were also mentioned by

several respondents. Respondent 510 called for research into creating an understanding of the fundamental and underlying reasons for state fragility and the culture of self-interested governance. The latter was cited by several respondents as something that needed to be abolished, but no specific ways were suggested as to how this may be achieved through research. There was also a call to include disenfranchised groups such as the young, the disabled and women in all new structures.

In order to ensure the **promotion of accountable state and non-state service providers**, most respondents said that corruption had to be prevented or abolished. Many of these did not elaborate further. Amongst those who did there was no clear consensus of opinion. A code of ethics and suggested diversity polices for the workplace were given by respondents 79 and 135 and several respondents cited the need to understand grass-roots justice. Respondent 135 took this a stage further saying that research needed to explore the links between traditional justice and national systems and policies. Other key statements included the need for accountability to come from all organisations operating within a state not simply those belonging to the state, and while this is not directly linked to a research strategy the goal of links between countries was cited by several respondents.

5.3.3 Researching governance and social challenges that stand out as common concerns across DFID partner countries

Four major categories emerged in response to this question: **the need for good governance** (n = 47), the **management of decentralisation**, (n = 49) **service delivery** (n = 25) and **policy** (n = 13). The topic of migration raised in the background document only elicited three key statements, all of which agreed it was important but did not elaborate further.

The need for good governance cut across all the suggested areas of research but while 47 key statements reiterated its importance, only three respondents suggested how this may be integrated into a research strategy. Their suggestion was that this could be achieved by looking at case studies of what had happened in other countries and where possible applying the lessons learnt. A note of caution was exercised by three respondents who pointed out that there was a need to define governance per se before other work could be done.

Of the 49 key statements in the category of **Managing decentralisation** by far the majority said that the way to achieve this was through grass-roots participation and by ensuring democracy existed at all levels. Respondent 528 exemplifies this by saying that any transition to democracy needs to be

participatory and deliberative. A number of potential research initiatives were raised with regard to this category; these mainly related to how interaction between central government and other players such as development agencies (463), NGOs (263) regional government (448, 528), the media (592) and the private sector (463) could be evaluated. Respondent 492 captures the flavour of the responses by saying that what needs to be investigated are the mechanisms required by national parliaments in order to allow meaningful engagement to occur by elected politicians and civil society. Respondent 528 took this a step further, pointing out that both matches and mismatches between various levels of governments and development priorities needed to be researched at a sub-national scale. Respondent 565 highlights the need for research in social sciences and suggests that this could include work on community courts and roles and interactions between different ethnic, cultural, religious and tribal groups.

With regard to **service delivery,** most respondents pointed out the need for good communication between various the levels of society and external agencies operating in various countries. Several pointed out the links between service delivery and capacity building with respondent 580 summarising this through saying that capacity building was necessary to enable better governance and thus better services. The need for bottlenecks to be identified and overcome through research was raised by some respondents with 565 suggesting that through such identification, gaps in social policy and delivery of services could be identified. Respondent 510 suggested that a new stream of funding be made available to explore interdisciplinary approaches between natural and social sciences to build the best services. Respondent 607 argued for investigation of the link between the delivery of basic health services and governance, pointing out that in the literature it is argued that basic service delivery stabilise states. Respondent 510 said that if relationships between governance and conflicts regarding natural resources were investigated through a programme of systematic research stability, better service delivery could be achieved.

Perhaps because the category of **policy** is extremely broad, the responses to this section were limited in number in comparison with the other categories identified. The key statements were also diverse with no cohesive pattern emerging from the data. The most common topic raised was the need to ensure that disenfranchised groups were included in policy developments. These related to the same groups as in other sub-questions i.e. women, youth, culturally marginalised groups and disabled people. Three specific suggestions for research were made, with respondent 562 calling for work into institutional practices that encouraged or impeded the media's role in protecting the public interest, respondent 582 asking for sophisticated political feasibility studies to accompany technical and economic

programmes of research and respondent 594 highlighting a need for studies that look at links between governance and realism in the development of policies.

5.3.4 More emphasis on policy design research

Forty seven key statements emerged in this area. These did not fall into any specific categories but almost all gave suggestions for specific research. These suggestions appeared to mirror closely the organisations that the responses recommended, for example, several responses focused on the need for more health research to inform policy while several others said that the way forward was to involve NGOs in all research and yet others argued that by focusing on water, a stable environment could be created before moving on to consider policy issues. Many responses reiterated the message of previous responses, in other words that any research undertaken should involve the people who would ultimately be the beneficiaries of it. This was mentioned at both planning and dissemination levels, with respondent 257 suggesting that action-oriented research could be developed involving local people and in-country institutions as partners. Others warned that it was important to take note of previous work carried out, with respondent 483 summing this up by saying that successful case studies needed to be identified and analysed.

There was also a call from several respondents for researchers not only to be knowledgeable about the beneficiaries but to be grounded in the society concerned. Several respondents called for socially-oriented research with respondent 392 saying that social challenges that are common across DFID partner countries needed to be researched and respondent 528 proposing learning alliances and social learning programmes which link policy development to research outcomes and citizen demand.

Some respondents stressed the need for evaluation research into work already undertaken for example to examine the impact of policy research on the processes of daily life for the poor (510), to explore trends in direct investment and the associated costs (584) or to analyse the political consequences of the integration of rural and international migration in the informal economy. The main concern in this area was the need to focus on and act upon the outcomes of such work. Other respondents called for economic analyses in specific areas, health being most commonly cited, or more generally, as exemplified by respondents 424 and 576. Combined collaborative research in the area of economic analysis was called for by

respondent 424 while 576 said that there needed to be a better understanding of the environment in which researchers and policymakers function, within the broader arena of governance and change.

5.3.5 Other issues

In addition to the above-mentioned categories, 35 of the remaining 118 responses were able to generate four specific categories which are discussed below: **Health** (n = 9), **Trade regulation** (n = 14), **Social inclusion** (n = 16) **and the role of media** (n = 6).

While discussed in depth in question two the issue of **health** was again raised in this sub-question specifically in relation to good governance, with most respondents saying that health care systems needed to be managed and research into health need to free of corruption. Respondent 59 reiterated the need for local perception and awareness of disease/s as well as available knowledge in order to ensure equity of access, while respondent 593 suggested that without adequate management training and incentives for health professionals, health itself would not improve. This respondent called for research to be carried out in this area while respondent 607 encapsulated the remaining responses stating that the role of the state needed to be examined in terms of how to increase its capability, responsiveness and accountability as a health service provider and regulator.

It was pointed out by several respondents that through **trade regulation** and transparent processes at government level, good governance could be achieved at state level. Respondent 392 called particularly for an end to Illegal trade, criminal networks and terrorism. Respondent 580 went further to say that there was a need for developing new ways of tracking goods through the supply chain and import controls so that illegal produce cannot enter the markets. Respondent 584 took a broader approach, placing trade in the context of the economic dimensions of peace-building and saying that this ensured a need for trade, support to private enterprise and quality investment which must be linked to effective aid for fragile states.

The category of **social inclusion** was raised by several respondents. In this as with other sub-questions most respondents simply stated that all work had to begin at grass-roots or community level. As respondent 498 succinctly put it, there is a need for empowerment of local actors in the decision-making process. Respondent 520 called for the inclusion of marginalised groups into decision-making processes, while respondents 522 and 540 took this a step further by saying that research was called for to address the challenges of social inclusion for marginalised and disenfranchised groups so that they could become aware of their rights. Respondent 552 suggested how this could be expanded to bring about effectiveness in local development activities and service delivery by adopting a demand-driven, participatory

development approach through the inclusion and mainstreaming of development activities.

The final category to emerge in this sub-question was the **role of media** in addressing governance. It was highlighted by several respondents that more use could be made of both local and international media. Respondent 555 epitomised the general responses by saying that the roles of the media and communications technologies in promoting an accountable society needed to be researched. Respondents 522 and 525 called for a detailed analysis of the role of the potential of under-utilised media channels to disseminate information. Respondent 157 suggested that the power of new communication media was vital to make the global community aware of the new problems faced by specific communities**.**

5.4 Question four

5.4.1 How can DFID improve research into the impact of climate change on poverty and environmental change more broadly?

Three hundred and seven key statements were generated from the 148 responses to this question. From these, 34% (n = 103) did not address the key sub-questions below but unlike the previous question these have been discarded from further analysis as they did not appear to have any relevance at all to the question being asked.

5.4.2 Low carbon development, including the production of bio-fuels and new forms of eco-friendly infrastructure, transport and power generation

Three categories emerged from this sub-question: **adoption of new patterns of energy use** (n = 36) **new approaches to agriculture and crop development** (n = 21) and **societal issues** (n = 16).

One response not fitting any category within the sub-question but that appeared to encapsulate the nature of the question said that it was urgent to estimate the losses and costs due to climate change supported by facts and numbers so that key decisions could be made based on these figures (540).

A variety of practical suggestions was given in relation to the category of **adoption of new patterns of energy,** for example the use of human faeces on the land for methane production (190), the adaption of stand-alone renewable energy technologies and water desalination processes powered by renewable energy according to the local conditions (199). Respondent

454 answered in a similar way but highlighted the need for caution, pointing out that bio-fuel opportunities need to be considered very carefully and in an holistic way, taking into account stakeholders' livelihood strategies and balances as well as environmental implications at farm level.

Regarding specific research issues, there was a general call for further work on bio-fuels and renewable energy sources. Respondent 566 indicated that both bio-fuels and carbon dioxide need to be better understood so that developing countries can participate in related research. Likewise several respondents challenged the current focus on hydro-carbon power, suggesting that research needs to move away from the hydro-carbon power cycle/economic model to support sustainable power generation and in particular, energy conservation (568).

New approaches to agriculture and crop development (n = 21)prompted a variety of practical suggestions, such as on-farm bio-diversity and the inclusion of techniques to manage this, (203) and seeds that are able to cope with the different impacts of climate change (492). Respondent 601 summed up these practicalities by stating that local populations required access to alternative crops, pesticides and irrigation technology appropriate to extreme climatic conditions and the ensuing environmental changes. This response was supported by that of respondent 552 who went slightly further by saying that management of land, forests, reefs, fresh water and waste, as well as the control and management of maritime economic zones, needs to be taken into consideration.

Specific research topics in this area were raised by several respondents with respondent 203 asking for research that will provide short-yield varieties of food crops. Respondent 409 took this idea a stage further saying that due to the effects of climate change, resistant crop varieties, different production cycles, adaptive management capacities and new climate protection technology need to be researched.

Research involving links between agriculture and water were highlighted by several respondents. This was summed up by respondent 373 who pointed out that investment in agricultural research needed to focus on improving water productivity and tolerance to abiotic stresses. Similarly the impacts of food commodities being used for bio-fuels and how this will affect the poor in the developing world was cited by several respondents with respondent 510 questioning how commodities such as palm oil, sugar could be used to benefit both the poor and the developed world.

Two warnings were given by respondent 495 who commented on the potential devastation resulting from deforestation and the urgent need to develop schemes to promote research into alternative agricultural activity while respondent 496 pointed out that the growing of non-food crops could affect food security in different countries and communities.

The category of **social research issues** prompted a number of responses focusing specifically on research aimed at the integration or adaptation of societies to climate change. Respondent 222 called for research to be based on the developing, replicating and up-scaling of adaptive strategies that would reduce the impact of climate change and ensure environmental sustainability. Respondent 244 supported this, calling for research into the determinants of climate-relevant behaviour change and the development, implementation and evaluation of interventions to affect such behaviour, while respondent 522 suggested that both formal and informal information systems that contribute to or serve as obstacles to knowledge about and uptake of new agricultural technologies should be investigated.

Several responses addressed the cultural beliefs and norms of societies as summarised by respondent 522 who stated that there needed to be an understanding of social and cultural norms and values that shape health decisions, actions and environments and of the interventions that foster positive health behaviours. Respondent 498 suggested that research should define existing livelihoods in order to be able to categorise how resources are used and the environmental viability of this use. Respondent 533 called for societies to be better-prepared for disasters by investigating link/s between emerging diseases and climate change.

Three practical suggestions for further research were made with respondent 239 suggesting that low-cost water and sanitation infrastructures for poor communities should be researched using integrated approach methods to include multi-disciplinary sectors; while respondent 495 called for frequently updated maps of changes in land use which could then be used by policy makers and societies in general. Respondent 322 called specifically for research interventions for example into recycling behaviour, transport use and energy use that all promote behavioural changes that can contribute to reducing the extent of climate change.

5.4.3 Future international systems for carbon trading and how partner countries can design national policies to benefit from these new rules

Two categories emerged, those of **partnerships** (n = 28) and **specific systems** (n = 9).

The majority of respondents emphasised that no national policies (or indeed progress in general) could be made without strong **partnerships**. Most respondents did not go further than this but respondent 495 emphasised the need for a regional approach involving pilot projects based on access for partner country projects to navigation, communicationand mobile broadcast facilities. Respondent 496 stressed the need for networks to be created across continents in order that results might be compared and contrasted meaningfully. Respondent 417 called for the development of specific methods and tools which would allow links to be made between the very large-scale processes of climate change and the meso and micro scale processes of development.

Other respondents highlighted to need to build on, and where possible expand, current successful projects in this area with respondent 594 suggesting this could be at the specific UK and European levels and respondents 590, 602 and 605 citing the need to work together with other specified agencies to determine priorities, and to build on the potential synergy and gaps in order to inform future funding directions for climate change research and research in the areas of environmental, health and biological sciences.

While there was some consensus that **specific systems** needed to be in place these did not form a pattern, as highlighted by respondent 599 who pointed out the lack of baseline data to define what changes are occurring. This was supported by respondent 400 who called for an improvement of the knowledge transfer mechanisms to inform developing countries on international climate change initiatives.

Respondent 117 warned that systems for carbon trading that favour the poor must be developed as the use of food-miles will simply exclude poor farmers from access to important western markets. This was supported by respondent 255 who said there was a need to research high carbon-fixing land use systems - especially the role of soil organic carbon in simultaneously meeting climate change targets and promoting more productive agriculture suitable for the rural poor. This was taken a stage further by respondent 566 who called for an analysis of how energy price and energy policy affect world food supply and prices, and how bio-energy investment and policies affect both rural and urban poor.

Respondent 599 cautioned that the impacts of climate change may be indirect, for example, research is required into how attitudes of people with resources can be changed while in contrast respondent 570 called for research into the impacts of climate change on the rural poor, and the increase in storm frequency, and that mitigation approaches must be

focused on the local conditions and systems, highlighting in particular the loss of low-lying land and low-lying islands due to sea level rise.

5.4.4 The governance and political implications of increasing pressure on natural resources such as land, food and water

Four categories emerged from this sub-question: **changing attitudes** (n = 28), **changing water usage** (n = 38), **changing land pattern usage** (n = 17) and **monitoring weather systems** (n = 11).**Changing attitudes** It was generally acknowledged by respondents that people's attitudes towards climate change needed to change, with respondent 540 calling for strategies to break out of disaster-caused poverty traps to be developed, promoted and implemented on a wider scale. Social research into this topic was called for with respondent 159 stating that though such research ways to strengthen adaptive capacity could be found.

A preliminary step was suggested by respondent 592 who called for an understanding of social and cultural norms and values that shape the use of natural resources and for interventions that foster stronger measures to address climate and environmental change. This was supported by respondent 591 who stressed the need for and evaluation of how classroom teaching about climate changes, renewable energy, the business opportunities created by new environmental realities, positive lifestyles and career decisions by young people could be more effective. The need to include people of all ages, however, was stressed by respondent 520 who called for research into how benefits and burdens should be shared within and between generations

Changing water usage was highlighted by several respondents who indicated the need to move beyond a climate change focus and discuss environmental change more widely. Respondent 254 pointed out that this needed to include institutional arrangements for managing land and water.

Only two specific suggestions for research were made with respondent 495 calling for geological studies into the management and storage water above and under ground. Respondent 541 went further saying that water due to changing precipitation patterns and glacial melting is a key area for research in order to improve the resilience of rural communities and livelihoods in the face of climate change.

As with the previous category, respondents outlined the importance of **changing land pattern usage** with respondent 254 exemplifying the responses in saying that land users should be supported by scientists both locally and through importing ideas from developed countries.

Again, few specific ideas for research were given but respondent 83 suggested that on a broad basis the relationship between climatic changes and sustainable livelihoods based on economic growth should be studied while respondent 522 called for the analysis and replication of existing studies before designing new ones. Respondent 570 highlighted the links between research and policy by calling for increased empirical research into the circumstances under which current farmers' strategies to cope with extreme events such as drought, foster or constrain longer-term adaptation, and how this is affected by the policy environment.

Several respondents mentioned the importance of **monitoring weather systems** with respondent 117 calling for development of better forecasting tools to understand how climate change will impact on the poor. Respondent 583 called for more satellites to monitor large and remote rural areas and provide warning of habitat destruction (for example rainforest burning or desertification) that will further influence climate change.

Through the development of better forecasting, several respondents believed that new technologies could be researched with a view to building resilience (117) and developing mechanisms to help poor, agricultural producers deal with risk and uncertainty (409). Respondent 576 stated that by aligning and improving the quality and flow of climate prediction with research on adaptation, positive changes could be made. Respondent 582 called for the assessment of the implications of climate change for development organisations, the evaluation of their responses to climate change adaptation and mitigation, and the development of tools to facilitate change processes and the mainstreaming of climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction.

5.5 Question five

5.5.1 In addition to climate change, what are the emerging global trends that DFID research needs to address?

One hundred and forty five responses to this question were received from which 356 key statements were extracted.

5.5.2 Research with new powerful economies and types of technology development being undertaken by rapidly advancing economies to help lower-income countries most

Only one category **that of partnerships within the new economies** (n = 90) emerged from this sub-question. The need for **partnerships within the new**

economies (between them and the north and between them and developing countries), was stressed by the majority of the respondents. Some respondents, however, called for ongoing monitoring of the role of new powerful economies with respondent 590 stating that this would be crucial for future international development. This position was supported by respondent 510 who sought a better understanding of how initiatives developed in the South might inform global debates about poverty alleviation, and international policy towards the same. According to respondent 463 the political, economic and social effects of high commodity prices due to high demand on the part of rapidly-growing, already large economies, need to be forecast and understood. Likewise, according to respondent 592 the consequences of emerging powerful economies (e.g. South Africa, India and China) and their relationship with bordering economies and populations, which face substantial development challenges, need to be researched.

Other respondents focused on the need to establish links with knowledge superpowers such as India, China and Brazil, other emerging economies and high-income countries, through targeted programmes of international cooperation (565). Respondent 510 agreed that while links need to be established, these need to be supported through establishing South-South collaboration such as public-public partnerships for the transfer of knowledge, technologies and other know-how. Respondent 584 called for greater understanding of the role and impact of China in global investment aid. In a similar response, respondent 582 suggested that research should be carried out on evaluating how India's strategic goals in Africa were able to be implemented. Respondent 584 suggested that research should be undertaken that explores the extent to which Chinese investment in Africa is resulting in the livelihood opportunities and backward linkages that are so important to the development of these very poor countries.

5.5.3 Other foci for research

In general responses to this sub-question did not specifically address the issues of those countries with rapidly-advancing technology but rather focused more generally on technology itself. Four categories were extracted. The emergent categories were **land usage** (n = 51), **people** (n = 71), **trade** (n= 17) and **technology** (n= 37).

There was a general call for research into **land usage** in particular agricultural practices as exemplified by respondent 601 who said that there needed to be research on farming systems, particularly emergent farming practices. This respondent was supported by 445 who advocated for the promotion of good research focused on poverty reduction through agricultural research investment and focusing on resource management especially of water.

Water was a major focus of responses generally with respondent 601 noting the increased prevalence of intermittent and sustained freshwater scarcity resulting in lack of access to safe water.601 also called for improved sanitation in rapidly urbanising areas but warned of the regional and global impact of the reduction of glaciers on the quantity and seasonality of water supply, and of downstream consequences for agricultural, social and economic development. While not offering any solutions to this, there was a clear call for technology research to try and address some of these issues. Respondent 601 further highlighted impacts of sea level rise, especially in low-lying countries and the need for appropriate world-wide warning systems to be put in place for tsunamis.

The other major issues related to agriculture, with respondent 74 seeking urgent research into the safety and long term effects of GM crops, while respondent 580 commented on the contradiction between global targets for biodiversity loss and the attempts to provide sustainable livelihoods. Respondent 480 took this a step further suggesting that research should be carried out to improve understanding of the constraints on livestock trade due to inappropriate international standards and weak standard-setting bodies.

It was acknowledged by most respondents that **people** contributed to the need for new technologies as well as being those who would develop them. Respondent 585 summed up these responses by commenting generally on the impending depletion of a very wide range of primary natural resources and the implications of this for poverty. Migration was mentioned by several respondents as a vital element of future studies. As respondent 595 said, population dynamics (including demographic profiles and migration) need to be assessed. This respondent was supported by respondent 601 who commented that analysis of how climate change affects resource-poor farmers, including nomadic pastoralists, needed to be carried out as well as adaptive management in mega-cities, urban poverty, spatial planning, and the role of public infrastructure. Respondent 602 supported this but linked it specifically to health, saying how the dramatic rural-to-town migration which has set in as the result of other demographic and societal changes could be better steered so that it did not lead to additional major health threats.

The idea of health was addressed by several respondents, with 514 commenting specifically on the need for technology to deal with the changing pattern of disease and the public health response required, while respondent 607 commented on the growing burden of injuries in many

countries as a result of increasing road traffic and the need for research to reduce this.

Social research was also advocated by several respondents, with respondent 463 calling for continuing research on the metrics of 'development' in order to determine effective and practical ways to extend notions of happiness and well-being to developing countries, while respondent 540 suggested that research should focus on the wider applicability or structural impediments for further expansion or coverage of services for citizens. Respondent 544 was more specific seeking research into the impact of media projects and programmes, particularly targeting women.

Trade within and between countries and regions, was seen as a way ahead in the alleviation of poverty, with transport being seen as a key issue. Respondent 179 called for research into the development of transport infrastructures, with respondent 392 taking this further to suggest seeking new forms of eco-friendly infrastructure, transport and power generation future international systems for carbon trading.

Warnings concerning trade came from respondent 597 who sought research on the Impacts of globalisation on trade, access to markets and economic growth opportunities for developing countries. This stance was supported by respondent 510 who suggested that prior to any research being carried out there need to be more abstract debates about ethical development thus creating a much deeper understanding of the ethics and possibilities of alternative trading practices and activities on the ground

Financial barriers to trade were also discussed, with respondent 443 seeking a cluster evaluation of monetary poverty alleviation policies, while respondent 400 was looking to eliminate barriers to trade through the harmonisation of international standards and metrological requirements.

The final category addressed the issue of **technology** itself with several key responses focusing only on this. Respondent 375 said that there is a need to carry out studies on the most appropriate technologies which can transform primary goods into consumable forms. This was supported by respondent 502 who saw a need to conduct trials and other scientific activities in South Africa and the other emerging technology innovators in order to speed up the transfer of technology and training to less developed countries. Likewise, respondent 593 called for an investigation into how the sustainable energy,

transport and other technologies which are being developed for high income countries can be adapted and transferred to low income countries.

A note of caution was expressed by respondent 544 who said that there needed to be an understanding of the interplay between access to information technologies and poverty reduction. This was backed up by respondent 555 who stressed the need for imaginative ways to use technologies in order to ensure that the digital divide shrinks rather than increases. Respondent 575 also warned that the opportunities presented by the availability of more powerful and cheaper computers and related high tech equipment were linked to the growing disparities in personal wealth within populations in developing countries

Respondent 562, while supporting the above, further emphasised the links between technology and policy by saying that there is a need to support research into the information needs of policymakers facing the challenge of globalisation, and the most effective communication techniques by which these needs can be met. Respondent 498 supported this by highlighting the need for the involvement of implementation strategies and national research forums in the identification of research priorities, lessons and recommendations from existing research.

Respondent 595 posed a challenge to address intellectual or topic "silos" which can cause limitations to the extent to which the interactions between, and complexity of, relevant issues work. Two specific issues addressed this point. Respondent 510 pointed out the contradictions and impact derived from the expansion of bio-fuel production (for example the environmental impact of expanding crops which may accelerate deforestation in the Amazon and escalate the demand for threatened fresh drinking water sources, or the impact of substituting crops to produce bio-fuel on food production) and the need to address this, while respondent 576 sought alternative metrics to show that investments in development research could make a difference, through surveying the state-of-the-art in metrics for scientific excellence and development outcomes used to describe and address the 'knowledge divide'.

5.5.4 Making the most of opportunities

Due to the diverse nature of responses, no specific categories emerged from this sub-question. Rather, a number of different suggestions have been presented and, in accordance with the principles of qualitative research, it is left to the reader to judge the importance of them. Respondent 542 sums up this diversity by suggesting that the way ahead is to select a few of the most

pressing problems in Africa and first develop a process of information exchange between say Africa and India, and then move into deeper research partnerships and technology sharing initiatives at specific country or regional levels together with other partners working on in-country operations. Respondent 510 supports this by seeking greater analysis of the array of processes operating simultaneously which seek to effect socio-economic transformation, aimed specifically at radically improving poor people's access to economic opportunity initiatives, their material outcomes and resultant possibilities to inform international development policy. A challenge was posed by respondent 510 who asked whether neo-liberalism and globalisation will be positive in terms of development and poverty alleviation in Africa, and what this might look like in relation to the specificities of place across the continent. This respondent also commented on ethical development as an emerging issue which needs to be addressed. Another general research question was posed by respondent 463 who asked what policies and practices need to be in place to ensure that the poor are able to achieve a reasonable standard of living.

Education was seen as the way ahead by several respondents with respondent 460 summing this up, stating that while education, training, opportunities, and equality are all fundamental in escaping poverty, efforts must recognise this and make sure that the most vulnerable in society get the help they need. Respondent 585 was slightly more specific, pointing out the necessity of training and policy development (and application) in entrepreneurial principles, quality control, human resources management, ethics, and accountability.

Measurement in a broad sense, was also identified as important by several respondents, with 112 calling for a lead in the measurement and analysis of poverty as evidence to influence sub-national, national and international debates on poverty elimination strategies, while respondent 255 asked for measurement and assessment techniques to be made accessible and usable to partners.

The identification of entry points to policy incidence and empirical solutions at different levels of the social hierarchical structure were mentioned by respondent 409, while achieving sustainability in the proper management of natural resources and use thereof through the involvement of all stakeholders in the environment management was targeted by respondent 552. 273 called for a balance between both of these issues. Knowledge sharing through Product Development Partnerships was also seen as a way ahead (502).

Respondent 510 called for general research in urban areas into themes such as home-based enterprises, micro credit, migration, trafficking, built environment, post-conflict city reconstruction, urban infrastructure and

governance and social exclusion, while respondent 544 asked for research on impact of programmes supporting access to information technologies on communities' ability to participate in political decision-making.

5.6 Question six

5.6.1 How can DFID improve the way research responds to user demand?

One hundred and fifty seven responses were received to this question from which 275 key statements were generated.

5.6.2 Locating demand for research

In relation to this sub-question three categories emerged; **Involving end users** (n = 81), **Partnerships** (n = 19), and **share and build on others' experiences** (n = 13).

While **involving end users** has been a common category in most of the sub-questions it was particularly strong in relation to this one so several key responses have been highlighted.

According to respondent 463 any research programme should provide for the participation of user representatives in the research project approval process and the management of research consortia. This was supported by respondent 409 who pointed out that research directed towards solving real problems in society requires stakeholder participation in defining the problems and, ideally, the type of solutions they would like to have.

Respondent 501 pointed out that in the first instance developing countries need to be empowered to generate their own ideas about development, in order that they can take ownership of own their development processes and develop effective responses to the challenges they face. This view was supported by respondent 502 who pointed out that communities and governments should be educated, engaged and prepared so they understand that the research being conducted will result in health products that benefit them.

According to respondent 510 the process of user engagement also needs to take account of and be sensitive to the priorities of those not strongly represented by leading civil society actors. In the context of planned decentralisation, it will be important to develop and plan approaches which draw in a wide range of stakeholders and do not reproduce existing in-country inequalities around research support, knowledge generation and agenda setting. This was supported by respondent 463 who wanted mechanisms in place to ensure that the views of civil society, community based organisations, farmers' organisations, women's organisations, organised youth, disabled and other marginalised groups in developing countries, are heard in the setting of research priorities and in the design of

research projects. Respondent 550 went even further by suggesting research should be intentional in seeking the inputs of excluded groups, such as disabled people, in order to improve the usefulness and relevance of the findings to groups who are traditionally marginalised.

Respondent 505 pointed out that while representatives should ideally be members of the communities which will benefit from research, as they need to have a real-life understanding of the situation in the field and have the appropriate background to speak on behalf of the affected population. However respondent 526 suggested that consulting with individuals and groups that represent a broad range of interests and expertise in order to identify knowledge gaps and develop a research agenda was a critical first step. Once this stage has been completed a research agenda will have been developed which represents a consensus of priorities and can be implemented feasibly and cost-effectively with or without external support by local researchers.

With regard to funding research programmes, respondent 501 suggested prioritising funding for programmes that more effectively respond to user demand and where DFID channels funding through multilateral donor institutions it should ensure that these institutions are committed to taking a demand-led approach. Conversely respondent 498 stated that demand for research should be problem-oriented: while it is essential to consult with beneficiaries and partners to find the needs, the solution should come directly from the research institution.

The value of **partnerships** was stressed by several respondents; respondent 490 stating that a collaborative approach has the potential to result in common goals, cooperative action, an avoidance of duplication and a greater likelihood that research will result in action. As has been shown in response to previous sub-questions, potential partnerships are widespread and this was emphasised by respondent 501 who urged the involvement of a wide range of stakeholders in this outreach, especially those who are socially and economically marginalised, so that research responds to societal needs.

Such partnerships might include Southern research groups, institutes etc. that could be supported as centres of excellence for this work (520) or community-based organisations which, according to respondent 540, could link with research institutions or with more commercial orientated research by promoting the creation of valuable feedback obtained from interested parties.

More general responses were received such as that respondent 576 who did not specify particular partnerships, but instead suggested that these could foster open and equitable participation, and facilitate an easy interaction between research insight and practical application. Practical or local application was also mentioned by respondent 575 who pointed out that research needs to address the ability of donors and their in-country partners

to deliver services at a scale and quality that is acceptable to and desirable by the local population. Respondent 510 concurred with this view taking it though to the conclusion of research saying that sharing and disseminating findings in ways that ensure continuity and development from and between projects will also enable greater responsiveness to the needs and priorities of end users already identified.

A number of responses dealt with the need to **share and build on others' experiences** but did not specify how to do so. Respondent 111 summed up the nature of these responses saying that intervention programmes that take notice of the entire socio-economic & political environment were important.

Two positive examples were given: that of seeking out case-studies of best practice or good examples of research-client dynamics (596) and the need to review the Canadian, British and Swiss experiences in engaging users with research priority setting, evaluation and implementation (607).

5.6.3 What techniques work well for research demand appraisal

Four categories emerged from this sub-question; **Involvement of users** (n = 15), **partnerships** (n = 22), **choose the right topics** (n = 17)and **dissemination of results** (n = 19).The **involvement of users** was again identified as important in the context of this sub-questions although in this case rather than at being at grass-roots level the focus was more on the building of stakeholder expertise. Respondent 591 called for the identification of Southern research groups, institutes and so on which could be supported as centres of excellence for research and development work, while respondent 602 sought the building of expertise and capacity among stakeholder representative groups in order to identify, prioritise, facilitate and then direct nationally or regionally relevant agendas for research.

Respondent 602 however warned that the starting points need to be institutions, departments and ministries in developing countries which are already effective and that through the strengthening of these there could be a genuine empowerment of good Southern scientists in their dialogue with Northern collaborators and donor institutions.

Unlike in the previous category the **partnerships** that emerged within this sub-question referred mainly to countries. Respondent 392 suggested that it was important to research how partner countries can design national policies in order to benefit from governance and the political implications of increasing

pressure on natural resources such as land, food and water. This was supported by respondent 510 who called for investment in the establishment of relationships and networks in advance of undertaking research which responds to and engages with users. Conversely respondent 404 suggested that regional DFID research offices, coordinated through London, could identify common issues in different countries and regions and take responsibility for bringing researchers from different countries together, both intra- and inter-regionally, to develop inter-regional research agendas that address local issues.

Looking towards the implementation of research findings, respondent 498 called for partnerships in the area of implementation along with national research forums aimed at the identification of research priorities, and lessons and recommendations from existing research

Inevitably respondents coming from specific disciplines have their own preferences so in this emergent category these have not been specified. Rather the focus has been on types of project and how it is possible to choose the right research topics.

Several respondents spoke of the need for small projects with respondent 293 pointing out that such projects often lead to larger ones, while respondent 565 called for the setting-up of simple infrastructures and (very importantly) the monitoring of the maintenance of such infrastructures, again with the longer term focus in mind. Conversely respondent 157 urged the construction of a strong and enhanced framework with all the related stakeholders to provide a unique opportunity to make a deep diagnosis about the main problems and feasible ways to solve them.

Respondent 570 sought strategic and blue-sky research to develop new technologies even when the problems they address have not been articulated. Likewise, according to respondent 409 different problem sets can be derived from overall analyses considering macro and micro conditions, and the public and private setting in which to deal with these conditions and problems associated with them.

Respondent 409 also highlighted that regional problems in different parts of the world may require different observation and trial points in order to confirm alternative solutions or learn the real incidence of the problem. This point was supported by respondent 526 who stressed that before starting the consultative process, researchers needed to have a clear idea of how the agenda setting process will evolve into a research funding and implementation process. Again this was emphasised by respondent 565 who

stated that researchers need to demonstrate the value and importance of their work.

Part of any research process is the **dissemination of its results** and this is also important in appraising demand for future research. Respondent 400's assertion that DFID's research needed to be circulated far and wide spoke for the many respondents who pointed out the need to publish research results in many formats. Respondent 340 took this further saying that that research findings needed to be made available in public websites, papers and other media, and link these to advertisements for future research calls that can be acquired by scholars, researchers, policy-makers, and provide support for the key research areas.

Respondent 568 called for support to the policy sector in commissioning and understanding research findings and effectively communicating them, while respondent 404 suggested that the outcomes of research programmes should be monitored by local policy-makers and indigenous political leaders. According to respondent 607 this could lead to the building of research information resources that can be accessed by a range of users.

5.6.4 Lessons learned in using these techniques

Three categories emerged: **use existing expertise** (n = 38), **capacity building** (n = 18) and **learn from successes and failures** (n = 33).

In order to use existing expertise and prevent unnecessary duplication of effort respondent 454 called for good coordination with other completed projects and those currently in progress.. Likewise respondent 373 highlighted the use of existing international, regional and sub regional mechanisms already in place in developing countries which act as effective networks to discuss, fund, implement rural development research activities. Respondent 544 went further, suggesting the creation of a database of expertise among researchers and development practitioners in specialist fields in the regions involved to provide a useful tool in identifying experts for national consultation exercises and for decentralising research into the relevant regions.

The need for a variety of partnerships to contribute to this expertise was highlighted by several respondents with 559 saying this was necessary in order to establish an understanding of 'demand' for research. Respondent 505 agreed but also warned that broad multi-lateral coalitions can be challenging to coordinate, but ultimately may have better results in the long term.

The use of existing in-country offices which provide an excellent opportunity to assess demand for research and to get to know the country's research priorities was suggested by respondent 590, supported by respondent 518 who felt that Southern partners are much better placed to discern research needs and the potential applications of research.

It was suggested by respondent 510 that greater funding of research networks targeting specific focus areas based on separately funded research programmes, integrating research outputs from field and pilot studies into practical guidelines and recommendations would be useful. Integration and collaboration was also mentioned by respondent 533 who suggested investigating opportunities for tri-partite (private, public and civil society) collaboration in the context of project design, implementation and audit. A similar sentiment was expressed by respondent 599 who asked that consideration be given to the formal development of 'twinning' programmes, where appropriate developing and developed country institutes can combine to address particular specific issues through the embedding of skills and methods over a period of time.

Finally the links between international agencies were mentioned by several respondents with 596 commenting that the added-value and profile given to projects and funding bodies by the associated researchers' broader contribution to their overall field of work –could be enhanced by linking-up with major international agencies.

Capacity building is another category which has emerged in most sub-questions. In relation to lessons learned the focus is slightly different although the end results may be similar to those of other sub-questions. Respondent 522, for example, suggested that out of previous project experience, mechanisms could be established to provide a comprehensive and ongoing needs' assessment across policy and government, organisations and institutions, practitioners and individuals. Similarly, respondent 118 calls for a series of 'windows': some research finance mainly intended to meet real, clear and practical needs and some research finance mainly intended to build up capacity in developing countries. Respondent 365 seeks the assessment of the needs of research, development, training, and extension.

Respondent 597 pointed to the policy-making level saying that providing research- and evidence-based processes which improve organisation, policy-making and programme implementation with clear evidence of impacts on innovation development and dissemination and on the welfare of the poor as well as on the environment. This needs sufficient replications at different levels until it becomes a widely accepted paradigm. This position was supported by respondent 558 who pointed out that the need for long term research which enables longitudinal analysis to capture the long cycles

in international development and their effect on the South as well as on North-South relations.

In order to make change it is imperative to **learn from both successes and failures**. Respondents in this study commented generally on this issue and in some cases specifically within their own subject areas. Where there was a consensus, this was ensuring that there was involvement at all levels. Respondent 549 specifically commented on the need to involve organisations and researchers from both rural and urban areas in the countries concerned. Respondent 522 was in agreement, saying that there needed to be ongoing assessment of diverse end-user communities, their existing information networks and information gaps. Respondent 432 said that there needs to be assistance to strengthen the capacity of research institutions in developing countries, so that they may play a much more effective role in defining and then implementing research agenda which are most relevant to their countries' development.

Notes of caution were also expressed by some respondents who said that sufficient support needed to be provided to intermediary organisations and other bodies to maintain adequate communication channels (562), while respondent 526 called for priorities to be guided by ensuring that the intended users of the research have the capacity to make any decisions or changes which may be recommended by the research.

5.7 Question seven

5.7.1 How can DFID best support cutting-edge science that benefits poor people?

One hundred and thirty two responses to this question generated 224 key statements.

5.7.2 Infrastructure

Only one category emerged from this sub-question: **working with partners to link research with dissemination** (n =16). Although some respondents treated each part of this phrase as separate issues the general context of the responses was summed up by respondent 118 who said that the conduction, dissemination and implementation of research had to be done with the relevant parties. There was less consensus on how this could be done with respondent 365 saying that it was necessary to undertake massive R&D programmes in the rural areas, respondent 607 stating that there was a need to continue to prioritise research that would influence policy or practice and 162 suggesting that the focus should be on international research to develop

new technologies which could be adapted to the local condition of each community.

Partnerships within the UK were also considered important. Respondent 407 pointed out that the engagement of a wider constituency of the UK scientific community in development issues could build on the experience of DFID to apply research findings directly for the benefit of poor people. Respondent 470 went a stage further and sought a leadership role for DFID by making it a clear departmental priority to encourage greater involvement of the UK's considerable research capability in work of relevance to the developing world.

5.7.3 New countries' technological expertise

Three categories emerged from this sub-question: **use the new technological expertise** (n = 38), **use new countries' expertise further (**n = 29) and **capacity building** (n = 48).

Respondents felt that it was important to **use the new technological expertise** developed by countries. Most of these did not suggest anything specific but made their points directly. This is illustrated by respondent 59 who simply said that it was necessary to duplicate interventions elsewhere, while respondent 340 said that more use of adaptive scientific advances made in new countries had to be made. Conversely, respondent 563, although still responding to the sub-question in a general way, made a much more specific suggestion which was to improve and enhance the flows of research communication between researchers, intermediaries, policy makers and the public at community national and international levels.

Respondent 395 said that lessons could be learned from the new countries in which it had been possible to conduct clinical trials and that in the future these should be carried out in other poor countries. Two other respondents supported this specifically in the area of vaccination development, with respondent 460 recommending the utilisation of powerful southern economies to provide essential drugs to other southern countries. Respondent 443 suggested a review of lessons learnt from Brazilian, Cuban and Indian experience in producing affordable vaccines and health-related products would enable future planning to be made.

While most responses commented on the lessons that could be learned from new countries' expertise, several also pointed out that there was still a need to **use new countries' expertise further.** One way in which this could be done, according to respondent 517, is to look critically at cutting-edge programmes in the context of national and regional development plans to ensure that the intended research will lead to tangible outcomes. Respondent 470 sought the provision of technical support for new technologies being developed locally in Latin America, India and East Africa.

Respondent 526, while concurring with the above, said that it was vital to reflect on what types of research are funded and what the incentives for researchers are to design research that will benefit the poor differentially. As with other sub-questions, **capacity building** arose once more as a category with respondent 595 saying that it was necessary to recognise the different elements of capacity that together form a "capacity system" in relation to lessons learnt.

A concern was expressed by several respondents that support to the countries concerned may be reduced. According to respondent 565 there is a continued need to support bright young scientists from developing countries by developing an early-stage training programme for young researchers. Respondent 510 supported this stance but also expressed a concern that developing new early-stage training programmes for early career people from partner countries receiving support from institutions in the UK should carry an obligation for the geographical focus of their work to occur in their home countries plus an obligation to return to work in their home countries afterwards so ensuring continued knowledge development in the country concerned.

5.7.4 Key scientific advances

In response to this sub-question, although 91 key statements were generated, there was no real common ground with various stakeholders commenting on their own areas of expertise. Some of the **strategic directions** recommended by respondents are illustrated below. A general comment made by respondent 447 was that funded research needed to be geared towards the realisation of the Millennium Development Goals.

Several respondents suggested that it was necessary to focus on and fund appropriate research into low-technological/traditional solutions whereas

respondent 291 stated a maximum transferable return could be delivered. Respondent 516 was more direct, urging DFID not to ignore issues that require not cutting edge science, but locally sustainable and executable technical and scientific solutions which are supported in the medium term.

However, others pointed out the need for cutting edge technologies, with respondent 502 calling for an acceleration of cutting-edge scientific research that is being conducted in limited resource settings and by emerging technology innovators through the support of partnerships, technology transfer and scientific knowledge sharing. Respondent 570 concurred, stating that cutting-edge science needs to meet identified demand with validated technologies that can be adopted and promoted through effective dissemination pathways. Likewise respondent 463 agreed, but emphasised poverty alleviation, recommending the support of research that tests the assumption that cutting-edge science could benefit poor people and identifying priority areas where new science-led technologies can add value for poor people.

Poverty was also the focus of respondent 404 who said that the aim of any research needed to be the development of technologies and the provision of skills that meet local demand. Respondent 395 expressed similar thoughts, specifically in the area of new drug development, by suggesting the employment of a strategy of drug development that incorporates poor people to produce outcomes of the highest quality while responding more directly to needs of the developing world.

5.8 Question eight

5.8.1 How can DFID be more systematic in helping developing countries to increase their research capacity?

One hundred and thirty two responses to this question generated 320 key responses.

5.8.2 Articulate research agendas at national and global levels

One category, that of **clarity of purpose** (n = 33), emerged from this sub-question. There was no consensus as to the nature of this purpose but respondent 599 saw it as vital that key needs for support were identified. Respondent 517 felt it essential to make use of the regional inter-governmental organisations to assess regional demands and implement sustained programmes of research support and capacity development.

Respondent 505 suggested that prior to articulating research agendas, the challenges of poor infrastructure, different regulatory environments,

importation of trial equipment and drugs, climate & logistics, and the variability in skill levels needed to be addressed and overcome. Respondent 432 concurred, saying that it was necessary to consult more effectively with national research institutions on any research which may be envisaged to be conducted in any developing country to ensure that it matches national priorities rather than a centrally-defined agenda.

Other suggestions were more process-oriented, with respondent 409 calling for support of selected teams to think about solutions to problems as opposed to supporting selected teams to produce specific research results within a time-frame. Likewise respondent 348 suggested the development of research centres of excellence in institutions where the research mission is closely linked to the educational and training mission of an academic department including the promotion of academically rigorous, problem-focused, cross-disciplinary researchers.

5.8.3 Conduct world class research;

Four categories emerged from this sub-question: **develop the right research questions and approaches** (n = 26), **capitalise on existing expertise** (n = 9), **form partnerships** (n = 12) and the **taking risks** (n = 10) .

Respondents indicated that it was vital to **develop the right research questions and approaches** which, according to respondent 11, must address real societal problems and areas of critical need. Respondent 453 agreed, saying that there was a need to support regional research centres that focus on specific areas of science where there is proven contribution to local need. Respondent 412 took these further citing the specific issues of urban poverty, gender inequities and social exclusion as those urgently in need of research.

It was also acknowledged that there was a need to build specific knowledge communities. As respondent 450 stated, this could be achieved by commissioning knowledge studies on various issues. Respondent 524, on the other hand, focused on models rather than communities saying there was a need to provide good models for technology forecasting and scenario building in national systems at the political and technical research institution levels.

There was a general call from respondents to carry out research locally where possible with this being summed up by respondent 586 who said that in order to ensure local ownership, data collection and field work needed to be carried out locally and also pointed out that external help is mandatory initially. Respondent 502 agreed, saying that it was necessary to promote the

conducting of research in the developing world, focusing on their unique comparative advantage: studying the diseases that impact those countries.

Respondents felt that where possible it was necessary to **capitalise on existing expertise** rather than starting at the beginning every time a new project was envisaged. This was summarised by respondent 373 who reiterated the need to invest in existing key research networks, particularly at the regional level, in order to increase capacity. This stance was supported by respondent 122 who advocated 'piggy-backing' on existing, well-established research networks to incubate sustainable, new research infrastructures and programmes. Respondent 516, while supporting the above position, said that it may be necessary to provide follow-on support for projects that are successful to avoid failure of initially successful projects once a formal end date is passed, thereby ensuring their dissemination.

Once again the need to **form partnerships** was emphasised by respondents with 417 calling for the identification of diverse sets of partners in each region that can facilitate regional collective action. Respondent 563 supported this, calling for the need to look at enabling North/South and South/South partnerships in order to seize the future of technologies in the interests of the social, humanising agenda by harnessing the energy and passion of the next generation to its productive and progressive uses.

A more specific suggestion was made by respondent 602 who suggested promoting linkage of re-invigorated university centres of "academic" research expertise with (a) specialist institutes for applied research (which generally lie outside the HEI sector); and (b) national innovation systems (designed to translate knowledge into practice). Another specific suggestion was made by respondent 498 who called for help to be given to research institutes in developing countries so they can establish Memoranda of Understanding with other research institutes so that they adapt the methodological approaches that are already being used.

It was pointed out by several respondents that no world-class research could be conducted without **taking risks.** As respondent 509 put it, it was necessary to be flexible in research approaches, carry out high risk research and choose innovative methods of research results utilisation. Respondent 517 concurred, saying that a new discipline and training approach is required in science for development. Respondent 454 took this further by stressing the need to aid departments in universities in developing (especially post-conflict) countries in moving away from very traditional lines, finding appropriate local supervisors for students who pursue more integrated or innovative topics.

It was also suggested that DFID should be an innovative donor in order to help demonstrate how to convene and build multi-stakeholder research platforms for achievement- and solution-oriented research.

5.8.4 Work in the right ways with a range of knowledge 'intermediaries' (the media, think tank etc) to put research into use

Four categories emerged from this sub-question: **cooperation between North and South** (n = 35), **working regionally** (n = 32), **the building of local capacity** (n = 70) and **the dissemination of research** (n = 39).

There was a general call for **cooperation between North and South** with respondent 498 summarising this as the need to widen collaborations between British Universities and African scholars and establish institutional footing in Africa in particular. This was supported by respondent 528 who pointed out the need to continue to support research institutions in the global North to communicate development-related research to relevant audiences and to work with partners to communicate research. Respondent 570 was more specific with the suggestion of creating funding lines to enable research institutions in the North and South to look across the outcomes of bodies of related research, trial uptake and research-into-use, and develop appropriate dissemination communications tools.

Specific advice was directed towards the UK from respondent 597 who suggested utilising the core principles and frameworks that underpin capacity systems in the UK to provide the basis for greater focus and systemic coherence in partnerships with both developed and developing country partners. Likewise respondent 595 suggested action was required to support activities such as UK Higher Education centres offering relevant training opportunities to researchers in developing countries, either through sponsoring attendance at formal courses or even in course development by enabling northern teachers to assist in course development, the conducting of needs assessments and the provision of teacher training. The idea of training was taken further by respondent 338 who recommended developing "associate" researcher systems, whereby national researchers are associated with UK research institutes or international research centres, through activities such as joint research, visits, on-the-job training within research projects and sabbaticals. Specific support for identified institutions was recommended by

respondent 519 while respondent 517 sought the strengthening and supporting of links between universities and medical institutions, and operational partners (NGOs) in the north and south.

Not only were links between North and South encouraged but **working regionally** was also strongly recommended by respondents as summed up by respondent 404 who recommended the building of research partnerships across continents by supporting South-South knowledge transfer. Respondent 348 agreed, advocating collaboration and communication between institutions.

Networks between southern institutions were recommended by respondent 517 who suggested that these could be achieved by making efforts to build, strengthen and backstop regional and national professional systems by supporting networks, tools and continuing professional development to help prevent 'brain drain'. Respondent 582 suggested that regional networks were vital to address capacity development challenges, and that support should be provided to those institutions equipped to take forward specific elements of the agenda in a coherent fashion.

Two key responses touched on funding issues with respondent 510 suggesting that southern organisations in research consortia should be allowed to charge large overheads which in turn could be used to build their internet capabilities and create a reliable infrastructure. Respondent 529 supported this with a specific aim being to support regional links through addressing the challenge of how the model tested by DFID of directly funding Southern based institutions, and giving them the lead in choosing how research money should be allocated, will successfully link with both southern academic and other intermediary institutions.

As with the previous questions putting research into use meant that **the building of local capacity** was a priority for respondents. Respondent 501 suggested that this issue should be a central objective of DFID's Central Research Department and thus a central criterion for assessing the suitability of programmes. According to respondent 602 this could only be done though building and sustaining research capacity in developing countries and though political, educational and especially institutional action. Respondent 463 emphasised the need to recognise more firmly that the development of research capacity in developing countries is a legitimate objective of its own research programme and respondent 348 called for the provision of support to selected centres in developing countries in order to strengthen their capacity.

Respondent 450 suggested that learning opportunities, such as formal exchanges for southern researchers, could assist in capacity building. This was taken further by respondent 575 who asked that consideration be given to developing early-stage training programmes for young people from developing countries, supported by UK institutions which have particular expertise and experience in hands-on engineering, with an obligation for the geographical focus of their work and much of their on-site data collection to occur in their home countries. Respondent 590 warned that this needed to start early by developing and supporting people throughout their careers with well-trained school teachers, strong school science education and research experience opportunities for undergraduates.

A call for innovative strategies came from respondent 582 who suggested changing processes from a systems and learning perspective to paying particular attention to comparative analysis of existing capacity and resulting needs and processes by which capacity development interventions are then established through collaboration of different stakeholders. Likewise respondent 562 said that there needed to be discussion in terms of enabling and enhancing research capacity (as opposed to strengthening/building) in order to properly recognise and express that there are a great deal of knowledge, skills and attitudes already in place that are not, as yet, enabled and certainly could be enhanced both creatively and imaginatively. A suggestion from respondent 526 was to consider requiring that researchers receiving DFID funding assume responsibility for training two younger counterparts in developing countries or partner with national institutions in developing countries to obtain provide support.

The **dissemination of research** was cited by several respondents with key responses ranging from practical grass-roots suggestions to policy interventions. Respondent 510 called for research funded by DFID to be published in the language where the research was conducted and for the encouragement of effective dissemination for non-research stakeholders. Respondent 519 urged that the communication of research to appropriate audiences which may include academic peers, policy-makers, practitioners and members of the public, be made a priority in the new research strategy.

The broad approach to publication was emphasised by respondent 563 who pointed out that effective research involves both the researchers themselves and a far wider community of actors including governments, information intermediaries, ICT professionals, field workers, trainers, librarians, funders, publishers, journalists and many other research communicators. Respondent 565 called for a campaign promoting open access to all publicly-funded research information, and partnerships with initiatives such as the International Network for the Availability of Scientific Publications.

Some notes of caution were also sounded with respondent 404 calling for a robust assessment of the model of Knowledge Transfer or Knowledge Exchange used and possible instigation of desk research into the relationship between research and what knowledge is transferred or exchanged through education and training. Similarly, respondent 562 asked for the development of a more effective public communications strategy to ensure that information about the research funded gets the type of media coverage that will increase its chances of getting into the hands of policymakers. This could perhaps involve the publishing of regular and informative briefing notes for journalists about new results obtained by researchers, and their implications for developing countries.

5.8.5 Be financially self-sustaining

Two categories emerged from this sub-question: **retention of talented individuals** (n = 23) and **time to become self sufficient** (n = 31).

The recognition of the brain drain has been alluded to in previous sub-questions but this is the first time it has emerged as a major category and several practical suggestions were made in relation to the **retention of talented individuals.** Many of these suggestions simply reiterated the importance of the category and these are exemplified by respondent 561 who stated that it was necessary to retain qualified individuals in the countries able to work in world-class areas and help build science and technology capacity for poverty reduction. The problem was further acknowledged by respondent 592 who pointed out the need to address the problem of funding for research and the development of research skills being often short-term and project-specific, making career progression inherently unpredictable and unreliable for local researchers. Likewise respondent 590 asked that the support of senior scientists be made a priority in order to strengthen the cadre of leaders and role models.

Respondent 593 felt that facilitation of the prioritisation of the potentially huge research agenda could be achieved by ensuring it is led largely by developing country policy makers, researchers, civil society and others.

The issue of equity was raised by several respondents with 552 saying that the issue of unequal participation of men and women in policy making at base level needed to be addressed. Additionally this respondent went on to say that increased access of the people to basic services, facilities and opportunities and the adoption of a participatory, local self-governance system was necessary to retain qualified people. Conversely, respondent 334 suggested that sufficient qualified personnel could only be achieved by free movement of researchers from the south to northern research facilities.

Most respondents recognised the need for **time to become self sufficient,** with calls for patience and support of longer-term programmes. Respondent 505 sought the political will to wait for the results of the longer-term process. This was supported by respondent 582 who wanted to ensure that time-frames for support to Capacity Development go beyond the short-term while respondent 447 suggest that supporting long-term, strategic, scientific collaborations between research institutions in low-income countries and the UK were needed. Respondent 448 supported this position stating that there was a need to support long-term programmes of research that link UK centres with relevant countries.

There were calls for specific support from respondent 470 who suggested this was necessary in terms of equipment, access to scientific literature, remuneration and continued research links to appropriate research groups in the north. Likewise, respondent 597 suggested supporting the development of accessible knowledge systems and building "communities of practice" through which national researchers in the same fields or disciplines could access and share knowledge and research.

The links between research and policy were also highlighted with respondent 540 calling for a "Research Demand Group" to address the issue of research now being a "flat" structure with networks dominating the direction and pace to be set up. Respondent 607 pointed out that the tension between the need for service delivery and research needs to be adequately addressed.

5.9 Question nine

5.9.1 How can we make sure people in developing countries can access and use research?

Three hundred and forty two key statements were generated out of 152 responses to this question.

5.9.2 What is DFID's role in developing research communication and getting research into use in the future?

Four categories emerged from this sub-question: **use of accessible formats** (n = 47), **ensuring all research contains communications strategies** (n = 30) and **work with relevant others** (n = 22).

The **use of accessible formats** was considered a key issue by many respondents to this sub-question. Inevitably ideas for what these formats should actually be were varied according to the target audience.

Respondent 427 summed up by asking to ensure that research is disseminated in accessible formats, media and local languages. Respondent 42 agreed with this but took it a step further by suggesting that research be made more accessible for example through more two or three page key conclusions with practical recommendations, strong distribution networks, e-journals and media press releases that are all accessible to journalists in developing countries. Likewise respondent 496 suggested the establishment of newsletters, e-mail and other services providing targeted information to users.

Several respondents focused on the science itself by highlighting the need to ensure exposure for the researchers concerned. Respondent 502 suggested accelerating the process of knowledge-sharing by sponsoring conferences in developing countries, and underwriting attendance by participants from neighbouring countries. Similarly, respondent 592 called for the promotion of open-access publication of research results, by providing all research grants with a budget for this purpose. Respondent 496 called for the exploration and use of open-access models that provide scientists, health workers and extension officers in developing countries access to thousands of journals.

Other respondents, however, focused on the dissemination of knowledge to villages and other end-users with respondent 348 suggesting the provision of a network of public libraries with modern facilities in the local language in all countries. Rather than the use of libraries, respondent 365 suggested that results be disseminated through Extension Workers at village level. Several respondents focused on the potentially important role of the media with respondent 448 suggesting that the use of good radio (rural) and TV (urban) programmes should be the focus of research and then used for dissemination purposes.

Ensuring that all research contains communications strategies was considered essential by many respondents in order to ensure that relevant research findings be implemented. Respondent 171 captured the essence of responses by saying that a culture in which people are prepared to analyse experience and communicate what works as well as what does not work, needs to be developed. Respondent 562 took this further by suggesting that those responsible for carrying out such research should have an incentive to see that communication takes place and that they have access to the mechanisms needed to achieve the desired communication. A practical solution offered by respondent 222 was the setting up of research demonstration sites to enhance access and uptake of research.

There was considerable discussion regarding how communication could be incorporated into research projects at the strategic level with respondent

463 calling for a better understanding of the roles of public and private engagement in disseminating research and of how the education system, from primary level on, affects the uptake of research findings. Respondent 523 said there was a need to commit to greater investment in research uptake activities, including media support, capacity strengthening of research institutions to communicate with diverse audiences, and the reinforcement of engagement processes with policy influencers and development practitioners. Respondent 117 stipulated that a separate Research Council for Development in the UK is now necessary, where multidisciplinary research is encouraged and where impacts of research on development are seen as an important benchmark.

Once more, the need to **work with relevant others** was highlighted. In relation to dissemination and implementation, several respondents felt that more communication needed to be encouraged with respondent 563 stating that this needed to be at all levels. This respondent went on to give some practical suggestions as to how this could be made to happen through strengthening curricula in research methodology that would include info-literacy readiness to exploit ICT tools in the pursuit of knowledge and information. Respondent 580 called for funds to be made available to allow for follow-on support for people wishing to use existing DFID -funded research outputs. As with the previous category, the media were considered vital partners but as respondent 519 pointed out, this sector in developing countries needs support in order to develop the necessary research skills in journalism. Another note of caution was expressed by respondent 267 who pointed out that research which really `hits the spot' rarely needs help in dissemination and thus should not need a specific strategy for dissemination.

5.9.3 How can DFID better understand the 'enabling environments' for uptake of research?

Three categories emerged: **ensuring researchers include communications strategy** (n = 39), **working with other groups** (n = 19) and **effective communication** (n = 30). However all of these have been addressed in responses to previous sub-questions and while the analysis considered the context in which the responses occurred, no new information was forthcoming so this has not been reported further.

5.9.4 Where are the right entry points for DFID?

Three categories emerged: **Effective communication** (n = 24), **local involvement** (n = 38) and **policy issues** (n= 39). Again while these have been reported in other sub-questions in response to this sub-question some new information was forthcoming and has therefore been reported.

Effective communication was essential to get research started. Respondent 442 called for help in providing resources for relevant means of communication for local research. Respondent 517 concurred with this, adding that technology must be used for maximum benefit to the communication of research plans. Respondent 607 agreed but also said that an effective communication strategy needed to be underpinned by local knowledge.

Respondent 519 warned that a definition of communication needed to be included in the 2008-2013 research strategy and clear objectives for the organisation's research communication work identified.
This stance was supported by respondent 521 who urged that decisions on the level of commitment to improved communication needed to be made so that adequate funds for a long-term strategy for developing a stronger research communications approach could be ring-fenced. Respondent 607 pointed out that a systematic review of communication knowledge would be a good starting point.

Local involvement at the point of entry was seen as just as vital here as at any other points during the research process. Several respondents said that this was part of a process and could not be separated from other aspects of the research as exemplified by respondent 470 who stated that research communication must be done as a continuum with a direct link from, and to, the cutting edge science and to, and from, the farmer. Respondent 501 insisted that the aim must be to involve users in as many aspects of research programmes as possible.

Respondent 565 suggested encouraging problem-solving research programmes that are home-grown and then create awareness of these programmes in the community. This was supported by respondent 592 who called for the identification of the diversity of needs across end-user communities and the development of context-appropriate dissemination plans for research and evidenced based information. The issue of context-specific issues was taken further by respondent 553 who said that issues of reconstruction, rehabilitation and reintegration, social inclusion, poverty eradication and employment generation, development and application of information technology, empowerment of women and gender equality, regional development and balance, the development of the private sector and human rights needed to be included in any planning cycle.

The concept of leadership was also raised by several respondents with 523 getting to the heart of the matter by asking DFID for leadership within the research funding community which could be provided by opening doors to researchers, by being seen to take research seriously at all levels of operation, and being open to genuine and substantive debate. Respondent 525 added to this, the need to work to improve links with the governance environment

for inclusive local and regional economic development to enhance uptake, demand and prioritisation for research.

Policy issues needed to be taken into consideration before commencing any programme of research with respondent 254 highlighting the need to devise the right policy that challenges and makes progress with complex systems. Respondent 517 offered a practical suggestion to ensure that research is supported by policy scientists who must take the lead in analysing and communicating results from research studies. Respondent 523 called for the exploration of better incentives to ensure that knowledge sharing acts as a major driver of change for development processes. A warning was issued by respondent 558 who pointed out the need for the speeding up and streamlining of procedures to get permission to carry out and access research.

5.9.5 Should DFID invest more in communicating not only its own research but the best of other people's?

No specific categories emerged in repose to this sub-question but all the 64 key statements were positive and encapsulated different levels of communication needed. For example, respondent 375 suggested that networking with teachers and lecturers can quickly pass on results to students. Respondent 510 pointed out the need to work closely with external organisations to increase the accessibility of research documents from both academic and non-academic organisations in libraries. The identity of stakeholders is noted as needing to be identified early to establish the partnerships required for the development and 'bringing-to-market' of a product according to respondent 559, while respondent 521 calls for the sustained support required to make networks function effectively.

Respondent 484 asked for a two-way, participatory approach to communication, which allows researchers, community members and decision makers to explore and understand each other's situations, constraints and barriers to social change. This stance was supported by respondent 562 who pointed out the need to work collaboratively with other donor agencies to ensure that the funds available are used in the most cost-effective way, and the need for synergies to be developed between the different supported programmes. To do this, according to respondent 514, it is necessary to strengthen the infrastructure required for electronic access to health information by practitioners, policy makers and other stakeholders with cross-sectored collaboration, funding and thinking. Respondent 556 suggested employing strategies that make greater use of research-broker individuals and organisations in the take-up and communication of research findings and in partnering with local policymakers and programme managers as part of the process.

Some cautionary notes were voiced however, with respondent 490 saying that resources could be better used by funding DFID's own research and communication of that research (in all formats) rather than communicating other people's research. Likewise, respondent 523 emphasised the need to facilitate the availability of research knowledge for DFID's own sector advisors, support information intermediaries in the countries where DFID works to package knowledge for key audiences including advisors and partners, before focusing on that of other organisations. Respondent 599 urged that the focus be not just on information dissemination, but also on how target audiences can use that information effectively through the use of study tours, the internet and direct training.

5.10 Question ten

5.10.1 How should DFID position its research in the future?

From 126 responses 175 key statements were generated.

5.10.2 What does DFID do well or less well in particular research areas?

This sub-question was separated into two categories: areas that were done **well** (n = 46) and areas that were done **not so well** (n = 54).

The majority of key responses in this area conveyed the feeling that DFID's current research themes were right as they embraced the future. Respondent 499 highlighted this and suggested that it was necessary to maintain and extend existing research areas and focus this more particularly on (and in) fragile and post-conflict states. Respondent 363, while not addressing all of DFID's key themes, said that issues of education, health (particularly the sustainable improvement of health systems) and the empowerment of women had been well addressed in previous research. Respondent 205 commented positively on the partnership of people and government. This idea was also mentioned by respondent 522 who said that it was important to continue to identify best practice in responding to the research demands of end-user communities. Likewise, respondent 555 spoke positively of the need to ensure that dissemination, communication and use of media remains central to all programmes.

Several respondents commented positively on the relevance of DFID's research. This was stated clearly by respondent 528 who urged DFID to continue making world-class academic research more poverty- and policy-relevant, and to continue building the capacity of the applied research community to undertake more rigorous research. Similarly respondent 590 asked DFID to continue its funding for research to ensure maximum

evaluation and learning from programmes of health care delivery in developing countries. Respondent 594 said that there was a positive focus on the Millennium Development Goals which should be continued.

Several respondents commented on what they felt had **not been done so well.** Most of the comments in this category were directed at the following though of projects. This was pointed out by respondent 474 who saw the need to put more effort into following research until it gets to the end-users and possibly monitoring the adoption process. Respondent 571 supported this calling for more to be done to ensure that research informs DFID's own development policies and practices, both at country level and in global policy debates.

There was also a plea by some respondents to involve local country offices more than at present. This was by respondent 602 who said there was a need to consider whether in-country offices are aware of the value of research to inform policy and action, and whether they have and use the means to easily access the best research findings and to "purchase" high quality research. This was supported by respondent 470 who warned against moving in-country too quickly without first engaging with the relevant institutions in the UK and the country concerned.

Other negative comments came from respondent 334 who warned against allowing researchers to flit from project to project, and from respondent 600 who asked DFID to measure outputs and outcomes of research rather than inputs, and think about mechanisms to capture those impacts.

5.10.3 What we should emphasise in future?

There were no specific categories that emerged from this sub-question as the 75 key statements either focused on existing research themes or specific areas of interest to the respondents concerned. Thus outlined below are possible **strategic directions**.

- Sponsor more research that sheds light on which programmes and approaches work rather than elaborately describing problems (418);
- Invest in research with participation of domestic constituencies - in locating research demand, in designing or even conducting the research (499);
- Employ real life solutions that actually change people's lives for the better (516);
- Increase the coverage of existing prevention programmes and the development of new prevention technologies (559);
- Encourage innovation, entrepreneurship and risk taking in research management and devote more staff to the "intelligent client" function (571);

- Invest in Regional Centres of Research Excellence and the research capacity of local populations (592).

5.11 Question 11

5.11.1 How far should we take a more regional approach to some research questions?

From 122 responses 122 key statements were generated

5.11.2 Cross-national research

Sixty four key statements related to his sub-question but no specific categories emerged. Respondents agreed that inter-regional and international research was necessary for a number of reasons, for example respondent 508 said that a regional approach would facilitate the discussion of sensitive topics such as governance, rights and land tenure while respondent 514 suggested that that a regional approach should involve utilising those networks and collaborations which already exist in those regions to ensure that research is specific to that particular context and that lessons are shared. Respondent 552 concurred, reiterating the answer to a previous sub-question saying that this would help in formulating regional policies, strategies and programmes according to the cross-cutting issues of poverty eradication and employment generation, development and application of information technology, empowerment of women and gender equality and the development of the private sector.

Some cautionary notes were sounded however with respondent 225 stating that if regional initiatives are to work, they must be prioritised by the developing countries. Respondent 517 also warned against assuming that all the answers exist within one region. Respondent 558 pointed out that top-down approaches to the definition of research agendas by utilising decentralised cooperation mechanisms to inform the definition of what research is needed and by promoting comparative research within and across developing regions, must be avoided in order to foster south-south dialogue and exchange. The notion of equity was also raised by respondent 597 who highlighted the need to ensure explicit operational mechanisms are in place to ensure equal partnership, national ownership and participation in decision-making, sharing of resources, and synthesis of research.

5.11.3 Cross cultural research

Cross cultural research was seen as vital by several respondents with 20 key statements emerging in this area. Again there were no specific categories. According to respondent 412 the best way to engage in cross cultural research would be used to share best practices while for respondent 480 it would enable an understanding of the cross-border nature of livelihoods, link

emerging programmes in neighbouring countries and assess the impact of this from a cross-border perspective.

The need to preserve local cultures and customs was also cited by several respondents with respondent 62 pointing out the need to preserve and respect the uniqueness of local cultures and customs. Respondent 549 agreed and went further to say that such research could help in avoiding conflict situations and offer real access to justice.

5.11.4 Other areas

Several other areas were highlighted through 38 key statements as important in response to this question. As these did not fall into any pattern, some examples are given below to illustrate the nature of these responses:

- Be aware of the influence of locally educated elites which may lead to the twisting of the type or results of research conducted (163);
- Link to wider areas of research (182);
- Work in the right ways with a range of knowledge 'intermediaries' to put research into use(392);
- Support national development programmes with new technology and monitor and evaluate these new technologies at a regional level (470);
- Employ new approaches to knowledge-sharing in order to be more efficient through the use of more direct communication (517);
- Adopt a tailored approach to programming (576).

5.12 Question twelve

5.12.1 How should DFID work with other funders of international development research?

From 126 responses 208 key statements were generated.

5.12.2 How to collaborate better with other agencies

Many responses were offered in relation to this sub-question but only one clear category emerged: that of **coordinating efforts** (n = 148)**.**

The need for organisations to come together to invest in studies of impact was raised by respondent 375 and supported by 400 who went on to propose carrying out close, collaborative discussions with national stakeholders while

respondent 417 recommended continuing to influence other agencies to support pro-poor work.

The Paris Declaration was cited by several respondents with 501 calling for observation of its principles in order to better coordinate actions, mainstreaming them into research strategy to improve the effectiveness of aid. Respondent 582 suggested that these be extended to ensure donor consistency within the research field.

Respondent 522 recommended convening a consortium of funders of international development research in order to identify common areas of interest and investment. Respondent 520 agreed, saying that there was a need to fund and learn from research on international development themes. Respondent 576 took this further, saying that partnerships need to be based on a shared vision and mutual respect that addresses equitably the issues of ownership and control, that recognizes fully the different contributions of each partner, that explicitly acknowledges reciprocal rights, obligations and accountability, and that is conducted in an open, transparent, and collegial manner

According to respondent 590 there was a need to recognise that creating effective partnerships requires substantial time and effort: partnerships save some work but create other work. This is necessary to realise the added value of working in partnership. Respondent 602 suggested that while coordination between research agencies is important, different donor agencies have different philosophies, priorities and expertise.

5.12.3 Research challenges that you think demand a co-ordinated, multi-agency response.

No specific category could be determined in response to this sub-question although 60 key statements were generated. As with question 11, a cross-section of the responses and recommendations is presented below.

- Address the issues of humanitarian crisis, natural disaster, climate change, water management and waste management (451);
- Achieve goals regarding the MDGs through incorporating an anti-trafficking dimension to work (460);
- Do not shy away from launching own innovative research strategies and programs, daring to go where other donors may not (502);
- Provide funding within the context of the UN millennium goals and within the recommendations of the G8 Summit of Gleneagles (565);

- Be willing to support a range of different types of research and preserve some distinctiveness in the programmes offered by donors to maintain diversity in the funding streams available (575);

- Ensure that the critical choices being made are which research themes to support rather than which countries or sectors (576);

- Identify knowledge gaps, particularly in multidisciplinary areas, to provide funding and/or use influence to persuade other agencies to provide funding (607).

5.13 Question thirteen

5.13.1 Last comments on the process for developing this strategy

Because of the diverse nature of the 83 key responses to this question, it was impossible to categorise these. It was also felt that all of the issues concerned had been covered in previous questions and they have therefore not been repeated here.

6 Main conclusions, limitations and recommendations

A transparent, valid process has been utilised in the analysis of this questionnaire to ensure that all voices have been heard. In analysing the questions, respondents have perhaps inevitably focused on their own particular professional areas of interest. This was especially noticeable in questions five to thirteen which had a general rather than discipline-specific focus. Another limitation is that many respondents focused on the sub-questions presented in the consultation document when presenting their ideas. Responses thus were focused on these topics rather than the generation of ideas from the respondents' own thoughts. Regardless of this there are several recommendations that cut across all the questions.

There is a need to:

- continue with research in all the main themes currently embraced by DFID;

- make meaningful links between research into each of these themes rather than treating them in isolation;

- address issues of governance in conducting research or applying research findings into practice;

- involve those at grass-roots level in all stages of research and dissemination;

- carry out research which focuses on the effectiveness of traditional practices in a modern age;

- ensure that in-country capacity for carrying out and implementing research findings is developed;

- continue to draw on the experience of developed countries;

- learn lessons from newly emerging economies;

- develop long- and short-term partnerships with relevant other funding authorities;

- avoid duplication of work but draw on existing research;

- ensure that all research contains a clear communications strategy;

- ensure that research findings are disseminated and put into action.