



Foreign &  
Commonwealth  
Office

South America Department  
Foreign and Commonwealth Office  
King Charles Street  
London SW1A 2AH

Website: <https://www.gov.uk>

08 April 2016

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 REQUEST REF: 0292-16**

Thank you for your email of 10 March asking for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000. You asked:

*"I think it would have been your department as it was in the interest of using the fungus in Colombia to stop growth of the coca plant.*

*It was researched between 1998-2000, for use in Colombia against coca plants.*

*The fungus, fusarium oxysporum f. erythroxyli was researched by the United States and subsequently the United Nations International Drugs Control Program (UNDCP). I would like to know in what measure the British government funded the research into this fungus, better known as the 'foxy project', at the UNDCP, carried out primarily by the scientist Professor David Sands."*

I am writing to confirm that we have now completed the search for the information which you requested.

I can confirm the Foreign and Commonwealth Office does hold information relevant to your request.

I can confirm that the UK government did not provide funding to the UNDCP research into Fusarium Oxysporum.

Under Section 21 of the Act, we are not required to provide information in response to a request if it is already reasonably accessible to you. Further information is available to you via the Hansard Parliamentary publications. I have enclosed the links below for your information:

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm199900/cmhansrd/vo000608/text/00608w04.htm>

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm199900/cmhansrd/vo000713/text/00713w12.htm>

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm199900/cmhansrd/vo000516/text/00516w09.htm>

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Yours sincerely,

*South America Department*



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