



Commonwealth Scholarship  
Commission in the UK

# Delivering a common future

**Annual report**

For the year ending 30 September 2020



COMMONWEALTH  
SCHOLARSHIPS





Commonwealth Scholarship  
Commission in the UK

# Delivering a common future

## Annual report

For the year ending 30 September 2020

61st Annual Report to the Secretary of  
State for Foreign, Commonwealth and  
Development Affairs

For the year ending 30 September 2020

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





© Commonwealth Scholarship Commission in the United Kingdom (2020)

The text of this document (this excludes, where present, the Royal Arms and all departmental and agency logos) may be reproduced free of charge in any format or medium providing that it is reproduced accurately and not in a misleading context.

The material must be acknowledged as Commonwealth Scholarship Commission in the United Kingdom copyright and the document title specified. Where third party material has been identified, permission from the respective copyright holder must be sought.

The Department for International Development merged with the Foreign and Commonwealth Office on 2 September 2020 to form the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office. The functions of the Secretary of State for International Development were transferred to the Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs. This report is laid before Parliament by the Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs.

Any enquiries regarding this publication should be sent to [info@cscuk.org.uk](mailto:info@cscuk.org.uk)

This publication is available for download from [www.gov.uk/cscuk](http://www.gov.uk/cscuk)

# Contents

6	Foreword
8	Sustainable development goals
10	Time Limited Programme - Disability
12	Science and technology for development
14	Strengthening health systems and capacity
16	Promoting global prosperity
18	Strengthening global peace, security and governance
20	Strengthening resilience and response to crises
22	Access, inclusion and opportunity
24	2019-2020 Indicators of Impact
25	Our awards
26	Our Partners: nominating agencies
27	Academic advisers
29	UK Universities
30	UK Fellowship host organisations
31	Overseas organisations
32	Governance statement
33	Statement of Accounting Officer's responsibilities
37	Membership of the Commonwealth Scholarship Commission in the UK
40	Alumni Advisory Panel
42	Statement of income and expenditure
44	2019-2020 Key performance indicators
45	Notes



# Foreword

“At this time of great upheaval, with nearly every Commonwealth country and individual being affected to at least some degree by COVID-19, it is more vital than ever that we recognise the research and collaborations achieved by all of you, as valued Commonwealth Alumni. Your work ensures that we can continue to champion mental and physical wellbeing, include the most vulnerable in society in our thinking and the practice of policy-making, and inspire the next generation of Scholars to make the very most of the opportunities available to them.”

I wrote the above for the April 2020 edition of the Commonwealth Scholarship Commission's Alumni newsletter *The Common Room*, and those words are still so very relevant six months on. The COVID-19 pandemic has brought into sharp relief the importance of international collaboration. We all need to contribute our share to create a safer, healthier, and more resilient world for all; to help transform lives and communities - just as the Commonwealth Scholarship Commission has facilitated through its scholarship programmes on behalf of the UK Government since 1959.

2020 has been a year of extraordinary global change, calling on us to identify new ways of living and working. I and my fellow Commissioners are extremely proud to be part of the CSC community and to witness how our Scholars and alumni have adapted to new modes of work and communication, ensuring that they remain focused on development and use their skills and networks to effect change.

Our Scholars rightly focus on health care in developing nations - in 2019 43% of our Scholars were studying and researching subjects relevant to SDG 3, 'Good Health and Wellbeing'. Nevertheless, Scholarship topics cover all the SDGs and the six CSC development themes (pages 8 and 9 of this Report). Several of the Scholars featured in case studies within this Annual Report make explicit reference to how they have risen to the challenge of tackling COVID-19's impact in their communities. Other Scholars have continued to achieve within positions of responsibility and influence outside of the health arena. It is of course vital that we continue to support work across the breadth of the development challenges we face in 2020 and beyond.

This year has also highlighted the importance of tackling barriers to equality. In 2018 the CSC signed the Charter for Change at the Global Disability Summit. We committed to supporting outreach activities and encouraging scholarships for people with disabilities and in subject areas related to the rights of people with disabilities. Pages 10 and 11 of this Report detail how the CSC has focused on disability through partnering with disability organisations and how we have encouraged Scholarship applications from people with disabilities. You can read examples of how we are providing more Scholarships in subject areas relating to the rights of people with disabilities (see the case studies in the 'Time Limited Programme –

Disability' section of this Report). This increase in Scholarships has a direct positive impact in filling gaps in research on disability-related issues in sustainable development.

Our refocused strategy is supported by our internationally-recognised evaluation programme. We seek answers in increasingly accurate and sophisticated ways to the fundamental question: do Scholarships result in developmental benefits? And to what extent do our Scholars build development capacity in their workplaces, local communities and beyond?

Our evidence and answers are described in this report. Some of that evidence is qualitative and in this Report you can read about the returned Scholars who have made, and are making, beneficial impact in both practical and soft power aspects in their communities and countries. Jane Theuri (2019 Commonwealth Scholar) talks of how her Scholarship has boosted not only her writing skills but also her confidence and aspirations to further lobby and negotiate for equity for full societal participation of persons with disability – from grassroots local community levels through partnership-building and advocacy, to ultimately effect change through more senior roles in government. Winfred Dotse-Gborgbortsi (2016 Shared Scholar) explains how the use of mobile health devices which he implemented and evaluated across 5 regions in Ghana have since been rolled out across the country to improve maternal health outcomes. As a direct result of collaborative engagement with policymakers, and strengthening links between the Ghana Health Service, the School of Public Health at the University of Ghana, and the University of Southampton (at which Winfred studied), data gaps have also been identified in scabies reporting, and so new work is ongoing to develop better scabies reporting systems.

In addition to such case studies, other evidence is provided throughout this Annual Report in quantitative statistical form, which explains the positive global influence of our Scholarships.

We aim to deliver these benefits with maximum efficiency. The percentage of our 2019/20 budget spent on programme management and administration reduced this year by 0.2%, enabling us to offer more awards. The success of CSC's programmes rely on a very wide range of stakeholders, including substantial in-kind contributions from national nominating agencies across the Commonwealth, £5million in contributions from UK universities,



and weeks of work by leading UK academics who contribute to our selection processes free of charge.

Our partnerships are international. Countries in the Commonwealth designate a national agency which organises wide advertising of Commonwealth Scholarships throughout their nation and then makes an initial selection of potential candidates for recommendation to the CSC. These are not quotas; potential Scholars and Fellows are in competition across the Commonwealth, to maintain the highest standards. We appreciate the rigorous and significant work of our nominating partners across the Commonwealth.

The CSC Secretariat, employed on our behalf by the ACU, and the British Council (which supports our Alumni activity), are extraordinary. On behalf of all the Commissioners I thank them for their consistently impressive commitment to making Commonwealth Scholarships and Commonwealth Fellowships a success in every respect.

We heartily thank all of those people and organisations. We also thank the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office, the Department for Education, all the staff of the Association of Commonwealth Universities, and the British Council, for its promotion of our work overseas. Above all, we acknowledge the

outstanding work of our Scholars, Fellows and Alumni, whose determination and achievements make Commonwealth Scholarships the distinctive force that they are. Daily they inspire us.

The Commonwealth Scholarship Commissioners who steward and develop this extraordinary scheme with pride and enthusiasm will, in addition to their usual extensive commitment to making the best and fairest selections and developing policy based on the evidence of our evaluations, be involved in plans for a new strategy for the CSC over the next year. While doing so we will be mindful of the many lessons learned while adapting to the COVID-19 pandemic, helping ensure that the contribution of Scholarships to international development continues to be as effective and inspirational as possible, and looking ahead to a bold and resilient new generation of Scholars yet to come.

**Richard Middleton**

Chair

Commonwealth Scholarship Commission in the UK

We have the honour to submit pursuant to Schedule 2, Section 13, Clause (5) 2 of the International Development Act 2002, the following report of the Commonwealth Scholarship Commission in the United Kingdom for the year ending 30 September 2020.

# Sustainable Development Goals and Development Themes

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

Each story within this report is tagged with the SDG(s) the study or research relates to – demonstrating how Commonwealth Scholars and Fellows are making a meaningful contribution to sustainable development.

## Percentage of Commonwealth Scholarships applicable to each Sustainable Development Goal

The data below reflects the SDGs covered by Scholarships awarded in 2019 (up to 3 selected per Scholar)





All Commonwealth Scholarships funded by the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) are offered under six development themes.

## Percentage of Commonwealth Scholarships applicable to each CSC development theme

The data below reflects the development themes of the 2019 Scholars

# CSC Development Themes

**Science and technology for development**

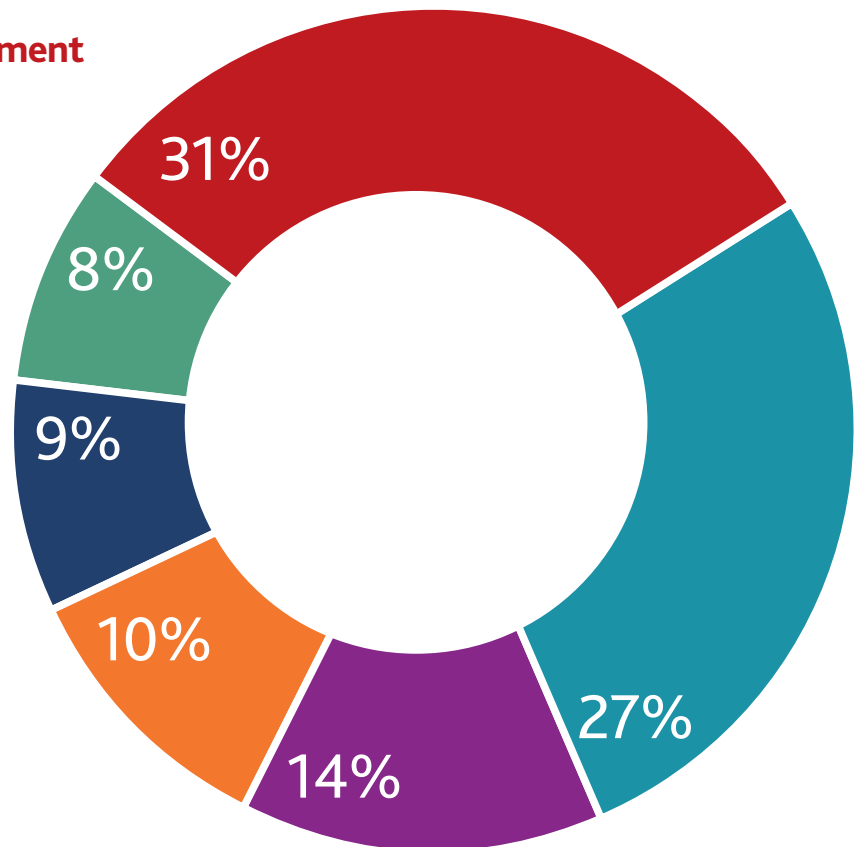
**Strengthening health systems and capacity**

**Access, inclusion and opportunity**

**Strengthening resilience and response to crises**

**Strengthening global peace, security and governance**

**Promoting global prosperity**



\*Rounded figures may not equal 100%

# Time Limited Programme - Disability

The special programme for 2019-2020 enabled the CSC to focus on disability. People with disabilities continue to face numerous barriers to their full inclusion and participation in all aspects of society. In fulfilment of the commitment made at the Global Disability Summit in 2018, the CSC has allocated Scholarships for people with disabilities and provided more Scholarships in subject areas relating to the rights of people with disabilities. These focused activities have a direct positive impact in filling gaps in research on disability-related issues in sustainable development.

The CSC awarded an additional five Shared Scholarships and 19 Distance Learning Scholarships for Scholars studying disability-related Master's programmes. These awards focused on the following key areas:

## Shared Scholarships

MA Disability Studies – Liverpool Hope University

MSc Public Health for Eye Care – LSHTM

MEd in Special Educational Needs (SEN) – University of Exeter

MSc Global Mental Health – University of Glasgow

## Distance Learning Scholarships

MSc in Clinical Optometry – Cardiff University

MSc Prosthetics & Orthotics Rehabilitation Studies – University of Strathclyde

MSc in Dementia Studies – University of Stirling

MSc in Global Issues in Gerontology and Ageing – University of Stirling

The above Scholarships were in addition to awards given to Scholars to study a range of subject areas with their own disability focus. Examples of the awards which involve Scholars' own disability focus are provided in the following case studies.

'We are delighted with the success of our Time Limited Programme on Disability. Partnering with disability organisations such as Leonard Cheshire, the Shaw Trust and Disability Rights UK was key to our achievements. These partnerships ensured our approach facilitated participation and study support. Lessons learned will make our awards fully accessible to those qualified to benefit from them.'

**Professor Nuala McGrath, CSC Commissioner**

## Improving mental health provision in Bangladesh

Globally, 15% of people are living with disability and, out of these, 80% live in low and middle income countries. The disability-adjusted life year (DALY) is a measure of overall disease burden, expressed as the number of years lost due to ill-health, disability or early death. Mental illnesses are one of the major contributors to DALYs worldwide, and 1 in every 4 people around the world suffer from mental illness at some point in their life (WHO).

Despite the clear need for significant attention, Bangladesh's budget allocation for mental health stands at less than 1% of its total health budget. As a trained medical doctor, I have seen first-hand how physical ailments are conventionally accepted in Bangladesh, compared to the more 'invisible' mental illnesses. Mental illness is very prevalent but is neglected in comparison. Most mental health statistics are gained from

research conducted in high income countries, giving rise to a data gap from low and middle income countries. My aim, aided by the clinical research and academic writing skills I have gained during my Commonwealth Scholarship, is to help bridge gaps between low income and high income countries in terms of existing attitudes towards mental health, policymaking, and the involvement of individuals with mental illnesses in decision making processes.

My research focuses on a research gap: the role of Vitamin D deficiency as a risk factor for mental illnesses. This is a current popular research topic in high income countries, but is also relevant to low and middle income countries, as Vitamin D supplementation can be a cost-effective and patient-compliant alternative or complementary intervention to existing psychiatric medications. The non-compliance of patients due to the side



**Mahnoz Illias**

2019 Commonwealth Shared Scholar

**Bangladesh**

MSc Global Mental Health

University of Glasgow



effects of these medications ultimately leads to treatment failure. Therefore, research on other potential alternative treatment options may help to promote health within societies and reduce disease burden on the health systems.

## Identifying social and political prejudices towards disability in Africa

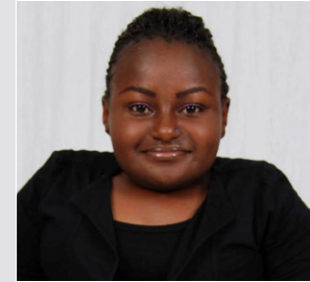
My interdisciplinary study of disabilities within Africa, focusing on key historical, political, economical, and cultural concepts, enables me to understand the continent better in all its complexity. I have produced a toolkit to highlight disability misconceptions and prejudices held by different African communities (especially towards women with disability) which lead to the creation of institutional barriers and disadvantage. The formation (or lack) of relevant government laws and policies reinforce these attitudes.

I identified a gap in disability rights where there is a lack of both political goodwill and resource allocation towards implementation of suitable laws and policies. This is because there is a lack of proper guidelines or framework to ensure each disability is catered for when offering services. Generalising 'disability' locks out some disabilities which are more severe. A blueprint which serves all

disabilities regardless of their context would minimise the disparities that exist between high-income and lower-income countries.

My Scholarship has boosted my academic writing skills, and the opportunity to study in the UK has given me a clearer, broader perspective on so many aspects of life. My MSc will give me a competitive edge and act as a catalyst in propelling me to more senior roles in government. I will have more bargaining power and be able to navigate my way to decision-making tables to voice issues regarding persons with disability. I will further lobby and negotiate for equity to ensure full participation of persons with disability in all spheres of life, as we are simply differently abled and capable of contributing to our country's economy.

I will gather support from the local communities I currently serve (as Assistant County Commissioner) and, through



**Jane Theuri**

2019 Commonwealth Scholar

**Kenya**

MSc in African Studies

University of Edinburgh

concerted effort between the partnerships which I propose to form from the grassroots, I will gain recognition and help create opportunities across counties through subsequent advocacy roles. I am certain my achievements will serve as inspiration to many like me both locally and globally and will also challenge the government to work on universal design to ensure a barrier-free Kenya fit for all.

## Tackling the restrictions of people with disability within Ugandan law

My PhD focuses on the development of laws and policies to challenge practices that perpetuate the exclusion of people with disability through restriction of their legal capacity in Uganda. I plan to use my PhD to contribute to the development and implementation of a supported decision-making regime in Uganda.

I am researching how disability laws and rights can be implemented and delivered locally in Uganda, in the context of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD), which is a United Nations human rights treaty. I want to ensure that the rights and opportunities of people with disability are protected. Examples of these include various decision-making activities, such as their right to own a property, and their right to inherit from their family.

Most research to do with disability and disability rights is largely within the Western context. Disability is a global reality, so we

must associate what is available and what can be done in the context of a country like Uganda which has differences in culture, values, religion, and law when compared to the West.

Secondly, I am researching and working to improve practical access to justice. Unequal access to justice is caused by factors such as where people with disability live, and their journeys to court. Further barriers to justice include current attitudes towards people with disability (as attitudes shape how services are run), and lack of coordination, strategy, and funding between different service organisations for people with disability.

My Commonwealth Scholarship has provided me with opportunities to network and raise support for people with disability. My plan is to publish my research to raise awareness and challenge attitudes. My findings will help change how people view legal capacities and will show how the legal system needs to change. In the long-term I want to continue



**Peter Ochieng**

2019 Commonwealth Scholar

**Uganda**

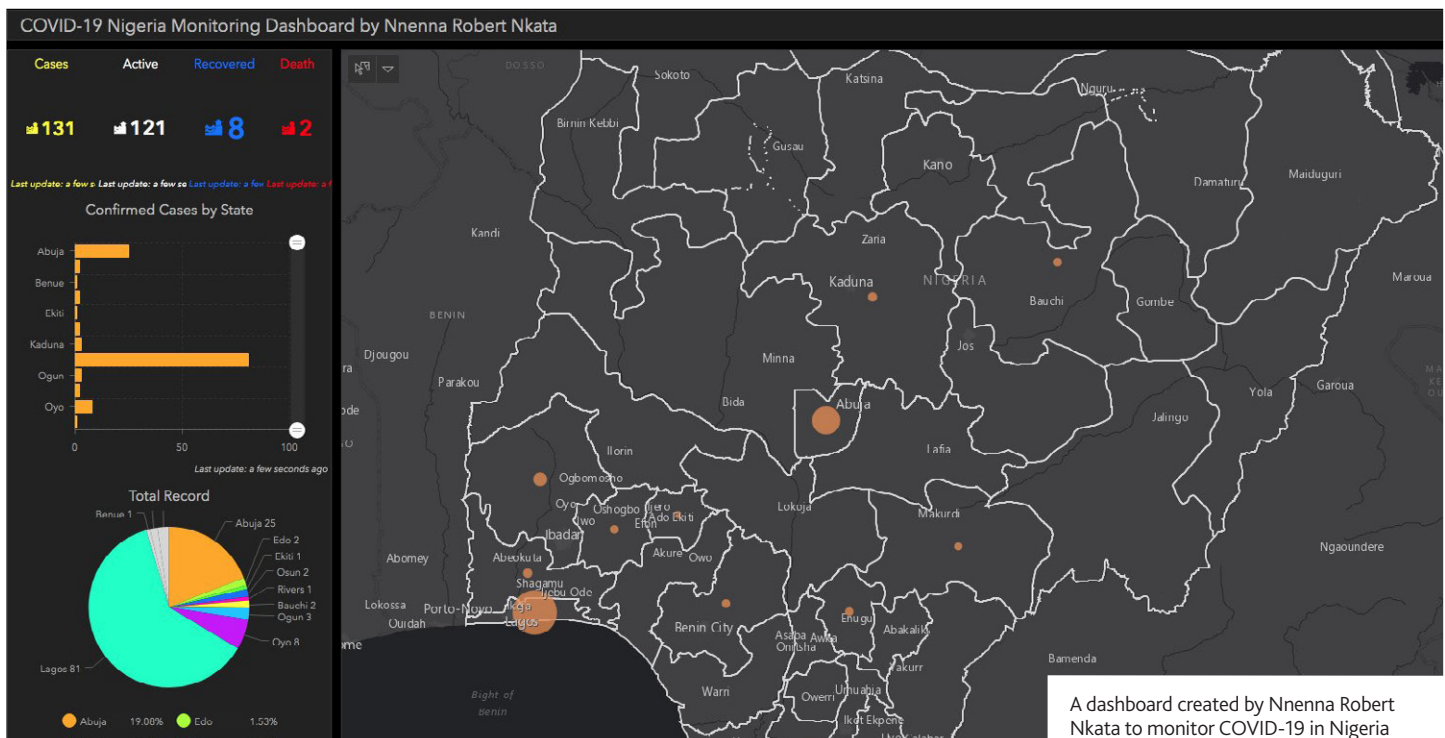
PhD in Law

University of Leeds

my work with young people with disability and my work with specific marginalised groups, such as the mothers of children with disabilities.

The development impact my studies will have is that the changes to law which I am lobbying for will support individuals on how to make life decisions which best benefit them, empower them to contribute to society, and in turn will have a positive effect on the economy of Uganda as a whole.

# Science and technology for development



## Mapping the geographic spread of Covid-19

In response to the COVID-19 outbreak in Nigeria, I created a dashboard reporting information on the spread of the virus, using the skills I developed as part of one of my course modules in data visualisation and Geographic Information System (GIS). In researching the outbreak in Nigeria, I discovered that the number of cases and deaths were being publicly reported but there was no clear presentation of the geographic spread of the virus across regions, limiting the extent to which people were able to effectively assess their risk level and travel restrictions.

By integrating data from the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control, I created a data visualisation dashboard which allows people to easily see cases and deaths across Nigeria. The data is updated daily and I hope to expand the tool to map testing centres to further support public health efforts and inform communities on the spread of the virus and how to stay safe.

On my return home, I plan to utilise my mapping and data visualisation skills to create similar dashboards to monitor projects and support capacity development in applying GIS in data analysis.



**Nnenna Robert Nkata**

2019 Commonwealth Shared Scholar

**Nigeria**

MSc Geographical Information Management

Cranfield University



"Our Scholarships allow the brightest and most able students around the Commonwealth to undertake postgraduate courses and projects with world-class research groups in UK universities. They have a proven record of then making major contributions to the technological, scientific and economic development of their home countries, often in collaboration with institutions and individuals forged during their time spent in the UK."

**Professor Brian Faragher, CSC Commissioner**



**96%**

of 2019 FCDO-funded awards are for citizens of least developed and lower middle income countries and fragile states

## Developing an energy management model for Jamaica

Electricity cost in Jamaica is high and there are relatively low levels of energy productivity. Part of the solution is increased use of distributed energy resources (DERs), which are renewable energy units or systems that are commonly located at houses or businesses to provide them with power. These however introduce numerous technical challenges into the power grid, which makes it difficult to manage the energy transition to a low-carbon future. My PhD explores the demand-response (DR) approach to sustainable energy management using examples from the UK National Grid. I aim to increase the share of DERs into the University of West Indies energy-mix to understand the use of data to enhance decision-making and influence the development of sustainable energy policies in Jamaica.

My research explores the use of data analysis in informing policies to improve sustainable energy management (SEM) in Jamaica and the Caribbean region more widely. In my role

as an Energy Engineer at the University of the West Indies, Mona Campus (UWI), one of Jamaica's biggest energy consumers requiring approximately 1% of Jamaica's energy demand, I have observed a deficit in data-driven policy-making in relation to Jamaica's national development plan and the resulting threat to Jamaica developing an affordable, clean, and secure electricity supply.

I have developed an abstract, general representation of the UWI's energy systems (known as a system dynamics model), and simulated DR scenarios by setting up the UWI as a smart grid test bed case study site. Smart grids use computer technology to improve the communication, automation, and connectivity of the various components of the power network. My simulation provides decision support and allows for the identification of methods to optimise the integration of DERs and forecast energy demand, which are crucial to maintaining power grid reliability.

## Repurposing coconut waste for agriculture and energy

The coconut industry is one of the fastest growing agricultural entities and economic revenues in Guyana, which brings major environmental and economic waste disposal problems. Coconut husks and other waste are typically burned by small scale farmers, or dumped in rivers, causing a hazard to boats and local communities.

In my role as an energy researcher at Guyana's main agricultural research institute, the National Agricultural Research Extension Institute, I focused on the development of environmentally friendly and economically feasible waste disposal options for small scale farmers. I identified that burning coconut waste releases high levels of energy

which can be used in small scale energy production as a further output of the coconut industry. Research is ongoing at the institute to develop coconut waste as an alternative energy source in Guyana while addressing waste management issues.

Coconut waste is also rich in nutrients and my research identified that it has the potential to be used as an organic fertiliser and growth medium. This alternative waste management option has been communicated and implemented by small scale farmers to improve waste disposal and reduce fertilisation costs.



**Stanley Smellie**

2018 Commonwealth Split-site Scholar

**Jamaica**

PhD Sustainable Development

University of Surrey and the University of the West Indies, Mona Campus

Following ongoing testing across UWI, I hope to see my demand response model upscaled across the energy sector in Jamaica and to have a leading role in sustainable energy management across the Caribbean region.



**Nariefa Abraham**

2016 Commonwealth Scholar

**Guyana**

MSc Energy and Environment

University of Leeds



76%

reported a substantial change to their capacity for critical thinking as a result of their Commonwealth Scholarship

# Strengthening health systems and capacity



Runcie C W Chidebe, a 2019 Shared Scholar from Nigeria, founder of Project PINK BLUE - Health & Psychological Trust Centre, a not-for-profit organisation which aims to increase cancer awareness in Nigeria, pictured here participating in a 'Cancer kills, get tested today' walk

## Boosting the use of mobile device data to improve maternal healthcare

Despite an increase in the number of skilled birth attendants in Ghana, maternal mortality has remained high, signifying unresolved issues in the quality of maternal healthcare provided in health facilities. My research provides information for targeted decisions to improve the quality of maternal health services and reduce inequalities. It investigated the influence of distance and quality on utilisation of birthing services at health facilities in Ghana, and was published in the *BMJ Global Health* in 2020.

Following my Commonwealth Scholarship, I returned to my post at the Ghana Health Service (GHS), where I furthered the implementation of location-based technology to map and analyse the impact of health interventions to identify gaps and inform improvements in healthcare coverage and management.

By working with the GHS and the NGO 'Good Neighbors Ghana', I managed the

implementation and evaluation of mobile health technology as a mechanism to improve maternal health, distributing mobile health devices and training nurses across 5 regions in Ghana. Using the mobile health devices, nurses were better able to monitor and report missed appointments, as well as access and submit patient records securely. Following successful implementation, mobile devices have been rolled out across Ghana to continue to improve maternal healthcare.

I have assisted in strengthening collaboration between the Ghana Health Service, the School of Public Health at the University of Ghana, and the University of Southampton to develop research opportunities specific to healthcare needs in Ghana, using my local and public health knowledge. As a result of collaborations, data gaps have been identified in scabies reporting and new work is ongoing to develop reporting systems to better capture and monitor



**Winfred Dotse-Gborgbortsi**

2016 Commonwealth Shared Scholar

Ghana

MSc Applied Geographical Information Systems and Remote Sensing

University of Southampton



scabies prevalence in Ghana. Scabies is now a notifiable disease in Ghana, directly as a result of collaborative engagement with policymakers. Findings from the scabies project were shared in a paper published in the *Transactions of the Royal Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene*, co-authored by all collaborators including myself.



46%

of all candidates selected for FCDO-funded scholarships were women

## Controlling and preventing infectious disease in Nigeria

Following my Commonwealth Shared Scholarship, I worked as intern at the Nigerian Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) in the Health and Emergency Preparedness and Response (HEPR) Department. I was involved in the surveillance and response to cholera outbreaks recorded in 20 out of 36 Nigerian states from January-October 2018. As part of my duties in the cholera Technical Working Group (TWG), a team composed of multisectoral representatives from several government departments, I was involved in managing the surveillance of the outbreak, gathering data from affected communities to develop real-time, evidence-based responses. The data analysis from my team advised the deployment and health responses of NCDC Rapid Response Teams to communities to control the spread and treat those affected.

I provided similar data analysis support as part of the measles surveillance TWG. Between January and September 2018, 13,895 suspected measles cases were reported in the 36 states and Federal Capital Territory. I was also an active member of the NCDC Rapid Response Team, developing and implementing interventions across rural communities in affected states, including Oyo State. As a part of the Rapid Response Team, I visited communities to conduct active case searches, contact tracing, evaluate community vaccination coverage, identify immunisation barriers in hard-to-

reach communities, as well as referring cases to local healthcare centres.

The activities undertaken as part of the TWG have been instrumental in developing the national action plan for the control and prevention of these diseases. The reports I produced as part of the measles TWG and Rapid Response Team have influenced routine immunisation strategies for hard-to-reach communities in Oyo State, leading to better health-seeking behaviour in rural communities and immunisation schedule compliance. The recommendations adopted include working with local government coordinators to access communities, developing connections with community leaders to raise awareness and implement immunisation programmes and address cultural sensitivities, and promoting healthcare access in rural communities.

I also contributed to the development of different health documents, frameworks, and guidelines, and was part of the draft committee for the National Action Plan for Health Security (2018-2022) through my activities in different working groups.

I attribute the rigour and depth of my Masters in Public Health to the development of a range of competencies which have enabled me to perform in these roles and in strengthening my capacity to play a key role in protecting the health of Nigerians. With a background in veterinary sciences, my MPH



**Adewole Augustine Adekola**

2016 Commonwealth Shared Scholar;  
2018 Commonwealth Scholar

**Nigeria**

MPH Public Health;  
PhD Pathobiology and Population Sciences  
University of Liverpool; Royal Veterinary College

enabled me to develop skills in public health in order to address the gap in veterinary involvement in public health management.

My current PhD research is focused on understanding the epidemiology of canine leptospirosis, one of the most important but under-reported and undiagnosed bacterial zoonotic diseases in Nigeria. The disease can be passed from animals to humans and poses a significant threat to food security and public health. My research takes a one health approach and aims to understand the epidemiology of leptospirosis to improve and develop leptospirosis diagnostic kits for humans and livestock, specialised to the Nigerian socio-economic context.

'The impact of Covid-19 as a global pandemic has exacerbated the vital need to strengthen health systems and capacity worldwide. The CSC provides an essential platform for Scholars from low income settings to improve health provision, build capacity of health providers, reduce maternal and child mortality, and respond effectively to health risks when they return home. Increasing knowledge and supporting the development of innovative approaches to combat the critical challenges in health provision will improve access to health for the disadvantaged and is essential to achieving well being for all.'

**Emma Judge, CSC Commissioner**



**£5m**

The contribution of UK Universities to CSC programmes, through maintenance payments and tuition fees, was £5m. Such partnership contributions increase the number of awards available

# Promoting global prosperity



Aaron Chipongoma, a 2017 Commonwealth Distance Learning Scholar from Zambia, pictured here conducting fieldwork to ensure effective protection of the plantation estate and surrounding areas

'As the world struggles to overcome the economic as well as the health impacts of Covid-19, there is an even greater need for talent and innovation if we are to build back better. Commonwealth Scholarships provide exceptionally talented people from across the Commonwealth with the additional skills they need to make a real impact on the prosperity of their communities.'

**Professor Anne Anderson, CSC Deputy Chair**

## Introducing bioenergy programmes in plantation management


At over 17,500 hectares, the Zambia Forestry and Forest Industries Corporation (ZAFFICO PLC) Ndola Plantation is the largest plantation in Zambia. By supplying timber for local trade, the plantation provides direct and indirect employment to over 10,000 people. As Zambia's population grows, the demand for timber in the construction industry is increasing, providing wider employment opportunities across the supply chain and associated industries. Effective management of the plantation is vital to sustaining this economic growth.

As the Assistant Plantation Manager and Fire Control Officer, I am responsible for planning and executing the plantation's annual fire plan to ensure effective protection of the plantation estate and surrounding areas. This includes fire pre-suppression measures such as manual, chemical, and mechanical weeding, as well as controlled burning to encourage continued growth and productivity


across the plantation. This is important because unplanned and ineffective burning can result in the destruction of trees within the plantation and irreparable damage through excessive scorching, resulting in a loss of saleable timber and productive land.

During and post-Scholarship, I contributed to the development of ZAFFICO's strategic plan 2020-2024. Drawing on knowledge gained from my studies in forestry management and data analysis, I produced assessments to inform future planning and investment, including the introduction of Global Positioning System (GPS) monitoring for digital mapping purposes as well as to provide improved oversight of plantation productivity.


I am currently working with the Centre for International Forest Research (CIFOR) and the Ministry of Energy in Zambia to develop a Bioenergy and Food Security project. This project will allow local farmers to extract resins and produce charcoal for




7 AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY



8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION



**Aaron Chipongoma**  
2017 Commonwealth Distance Learning Scholar  
**Zambia**  
MSc Tropical Forestry  
Bangor University

energy consumption by felling and burning indigenous trees in harvested plantations. This also serves to clear land for future plantation growth. The project will ultimately provide new employment and economic opportunities among local communities, include them in plantation management, and improve livelihoods.



94%

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



## Addressing household welfare issues related to non-communicable diseases in Sri Lanka

Non-communicable diseases (NCDs), which include diabetes, heart disease, cancer and respiratory illnesses, account for 70% of deaths globally each year. In Sri Lanka, however, the number of people who die from NCDs is far higher, accounting for around 83% of deaths annually. This has serious implications for the country's health sector and overall economy, which must treat ever-larger numbers of people, in addition to increased costs for households due to the medical treatments involved and reduced incomes for individuals who are unable to work.

My Scholarship research considers household welfare in relation to NCDs to better understand the behavioural factors that lead to higher NCD prevalence and how interventions could be made to lessen the economic burden on Sri Lanka's health system. So far, my findings on dietary behaviour indicate a correlation between

income and education, and increased consumption of both healthy and unhealthy foods, which can be a risk factor for many NCDs. As my research progresses, I will consider other risk factors and investigate the effects of NCDs on household welfare and policies on healthcare as part of a microeconomic study.

There is currently a scarcity of research in this area which focuses on the Sri Lankan context, so my findings will contribute to a vital research gap with beneficiaries across the social and economic spectrum. My work will also highlight the value of health economics as an area of knowledge for policymaking and promote further investment in research and teaching in universities to improve capacity in this area.

After my Scholarship, I will deploy my knowledge and research expertise in developing a degree programme in Health Economics at the University of Sri



**Chandanee Wasana Kalansooriya**

2018 Commonwealth PhD Scholar

**Sri Lanka**

PhD Economics

City University, University of London

Jayewardenepura, building on previous work which I began in the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences. Through knowledge sharing and active participation in the international conferences, my work will also highlight the need for further research on health economics issues in low and middle income countries such as Sri Lanka.

## Advancing honey production in Lesotho

Honey production is an important income generator throughout Lesotho. With three-quarters of rural households in the country dependent on the increasingly vulnerable agricultural sector for their livelihood, beekeeping, the production of honey and other hive products offer alternative sustainable income streams.

I was promoted to the post of Principal Forestry Officer soon after completing my Scholarship. In this role I am responsible for developing activities to advance beekeeping and agroforestry across Lesotho and lead the function of the newly established National Apiculture Centre (NAC), which will play a vital role in monitoring honey production in Lesotho.

Through the NAC, I have introduced data analysis to assess honey production in Lesotho and established that demand for honey is three times higher than production,

with 3 tonnes produced to meet a 12 tonne demand. In response to this, while working with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), I have implemented a two-year project to upscale and remove barriers to beekeeping. This has included the establishment of Farmers' Associations in each district, the redevelopment of beekeeping training to include beekeeping management, increasing hive production to meet national consumer demand, and increasing income for farmers and small-scale beekeepers. It is hoped these measures will establish beekeeping as a sustainable and feasible income-generating activity, while reducing the need to import honey products.

Through the NAC and in collaboration with the National University of Lesotho, I am currently developing quality assurance and food standards for honey production to promote and professionalise production and consumerism in Lesotho, while preparing



**Tankiso David Lechesa**

2016 Commonwealth Distance Learning Scholar

**Lesotho**

MSc Tropical Forestry

Bangor University

for future opportunities to export honey for sale internationally, once national demand is met. I have also successfully overseen the inclusion of beekeeping in Ministry of Forestry policies which will protect beekeeping activities and support expansion of the industry.



98%

of award holders would recommend studying in the UK

# Strengthening global peace, security and governance



## Changing opinions about reconciliation and transitional justice in Sri Lanka

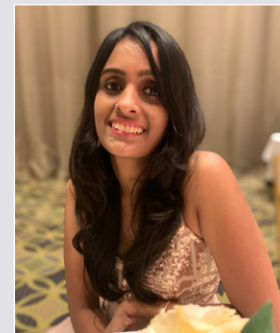
For over 25 years, between 1983 to 2009, the Sri Lankan Civil War caused significant hardships for the population, environment, and economy of the country. In the period following, Sri Lanka has been taking steps to address the suffering and aftermath of the war and ensure reconciliation.

Following my Scholarship in 2017, I joined the Secretariat for Coordinating Reconciliation Mechanisms (SCRM) as the Deputy Director of the UN & International Affairs Coordination Unit (UNIAC). As Deputy Director, I was engaged in monitoring the progress of the Government of Sri Lanka's adherence to its commitments under United Nations Human Rights Council Resolution 30/1 to promote reconciliation, accountability, and human rights, and

support the design and implementation of mechanisms to address these.

In this role I contributed to the establishment and operationalisation of the Office for Reparations, an independent body established by an Act of Parliament in 2018 to provide reparations for victims of armed conflict and civil unrest in Sri Lanka. In this capacity I provided technical assistance and advice to SCRM's victim-centric programming, including its grassroots outreach activities and open dialogues with the youth, public, state officials, and the military to raise awareness and change negative opinions about reconciliation and transitional justice.

I am now the Psychosocial Support Consultant for the Office of Reparations, where I am engaged in designing programmes



**Sarala Hasanthi Fernando**

2016 Commonwealth Shared Scholar

**Sri Lanka**

MA International Social Work and Community Development

Durham University

for survivors of armed conflict in Sri Lanka, as well as capacity-building among my colleagues in order to implement psychosocial initiatives.



93%

of award holders think Commonwealth Scholarships and Fellowships are prestigious

## Standing up for human rights defenders in Nigeria

In Nigeria, Human Rights Defenders (HRDs) play a crucial role in protecting the welfare of victims of sexual and gender-based violence.

By providing shelters and psychosocial support to victims of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), HRDs fulfil vital social services that are often unavailable at the state-level. However, HRDs working on SGBV initiatives, who tend to be women, regularly encounter resistance and violence in their work as a result of widespread patriarchal attitudes about the role of women in society.

Although an international obligation exists to protect the rights of women and HRDs, my research suggests this is not being upheld in communities across Nigeria.

My Scholarship research investigates the impact of patriarchal attitudes on HRDs' work and attempts to create a framework for navigating these challenges within the human rights practice. One of the human rights' gaps I have uncovered is the lack

of systemic welfare practices in operation for HRDs and the need to access materials and safe spaces. My work builds towards developing local resource centres for HRDs which provide wellbeing support and information on rights issues and overcoming difficulties.

During my Scholarship, I undertook a placement with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) on a project that had practical application beyond the academic sphere. The enhanced understanding of human rights law I gained whilst studying in the UK is allowing me to advocate for policy and legislative changes and to set up a network to further research the rights of women and HRDs in Nigeria.

My research will benefit both human rights practitioners and victims of sexual and gender-based violence by allowing the work of HRDs to flourish. This will directly contribute to improving women's mental



**Nabila Oiza Okino**

2019 Commonwealth Master's Scholar

**Nigeria**

LLM in Human Rights and Practice

University of York

and physical health in Nigeria whilst having a reciprocal impact on men's wellbeing, by challenging established ideas of masculinity to enable more equal social and economic relations in Nigeria.

'Commonwealth Scholars who apply to us with a mission to promote peace, security and governance globally make a valuable contribution to the promotion of democracy and human rights, both as ideals and in practice.

The research that our Scholars conduct as part of their Scholarship is challenging and innovative. As change agents in their own countries, they promote new data sources to improve policy-making, novel modes of public communication, robust processes to tackle corruption and reduce social conflict, and targeted economic, environmental and social policies to support and include the most marginalised.'

**Professor Madeleine Arnot, CSC Commissioner**



12,252

sets of contact details were maintained for alumni

# Strengthening resilience and response to crises



Image from Shutterstock of an aerial view of a devastated coastal area of a southern part of Bangladesh after a super cyclone hit on the night of 20/21 May 2020

## Assessing the long-term impact of flood interventions in Bangladesh

Coastal areas of Bangladesh are prone to multiple types of flooding, including riverine, coastal, and flooding caused by rainfall. As a means of protecting low-lying coastal regions from the impact of flooding following three major cyclone events in the 1950s, the then Government and a team from the UN Technical Assistance Commission formulated a policy in the 1960s recommending structural intervention and the construction of polders (low-lying areas of land surrounded by physical barriers such as dikes to artificially control surface water levels) to prevent flooding, increase agricultural production, and ensure food security amongst coastal communities. Between the 1960s and 1980s, 139 polders were constructed, resulting in the intended increase in agricultural production and food security.

Repercussions from this intervention, however, are now being experienced

by coastal communities, including land subsidence due to restrictions on sedimentation build up, resulting in the lowering of land depressions inside embankments which have exacerbated flooding and waterlogging from rainfall. While these issues are well-documented, my research provides the first scientific assessment and evidence of the long-term impact of polders in Bangladesh to inform future planning and flood interventions.

As part of my research, I have analysed and characterised existing polders and identified those in locations prone to flooding. This work has contributed to the development of adaptation planning to prevent flooding and the implementation of polder rehabilitation programmes, as part of a Coastal Embankment Improvement Project, led by the World Bank. Through the FCDO-funded global research programme REACH, led by the University of Oxford



**Md. Sarfaraz Gani Adnan**

2016 Commonwealth Scholar

**Bangladesh**

DPhil Geography and Environment

University of Oxford



with an international consortium of international partners, I have communicated my research to policymakers in Bangladesh for inclusion in future flood management policies. Outcomes of this research and implementation in policy will support flood adaption efforts and protect coastal community livelihoods.



21%

of 2020 applicants stated 'current or former Scholar' as their source of information on Commonwealth Scholarships

## Using data mapping in disaster management to plan, respond, and rehabilitate

I am a Geographic Information System (GIS) Project Assistant in the Geoscience, Energy and Maritime (GEM) Division at the Secretariat of the Pacific Community (SPC), a regional multi-disciplinary organisation focused on bettering the wellbeing of Pacific people. In this role I provide geospatial support across divisional projects which range from disaster risk, land use, and mineral extraction.

As one of the few people in the SPC trained in GIS, I have contributed to the development and delivery of training materials which increase the technical skills of professionals in government departments across the Pacific, including basic disaster management knowledge, geospatial analysis, and undertaking analysis using GIS and other tools to better inform disaster managers for planning and response.

I have successfully influenced data-sharing policies within national departments so that there is a greater focus on open data and access to data is prioritised during emergency events. This has resulted in effective

decision-making at ministerial levels on the distribution of aid post-disasters and the allocation of funding for rehabilitation and recovery. During Tropical Cyclone Gita in Fiji and Tropical Cyclone Harold in Fiji and Vanuatu, within my role at SPC I provided data mapping and analysis to the National Disaster Management Office to inform relief efforts.

I am part of a team leading the geospatial data administration for the SPC regional Ridge to Reef projects' State of the Coast, which is a thematically unique geospatial data management system developed in the Pacific. The project will centralise country datasets and streamline data collection methods to better support research across the region into areas including water quality and livelihoods, focused on climate resilience.

A further project, Pacific Catastrophe Risk Assessment and Financing Initiative (PCRAFI), involves the standardising of asset data collection to support quicker analysis in response to disasters, specifically tropical cyclones and earthquakes, for



**Carrol Margaret Helena Chan**

2016 Commonwealth Scholar

Fiji

MSc Environmental Informatics

University of Leicester

country level insurance purposes. My role is in collaborating to build and maintain a regional wide geospatial asset data repository, through which I will be part of the largest field data exercise in the Pacific, to gather infrastructure and economic data which will contribute to impact forecasting and hazard analysis and multiple other use cases outside of the scope of PCRAFI.

'The Covid-19 pandemic is the archetypal transformative challenge for which there is no predetermined plan of action. Pathways out of the global pandemic will only come as existing dominant paradigms are challenged, and alternatives are explored. Commonwealth Scholarships are essential in equipping talented individuals from low and middle income countries to identify creative ways to develop resilience, challenge existing norms and to find innovative solutions to dealing with global crises.'

**Professor Paul Jackson, CSC Commissioner**



92%

of respondents to the 2019 anonymous survey rated support from the CSC as 'excellent' or 'good' (the top two categories)

# Access, inclusion and opportunity

## Social and spatial equality via transport accessibility in low and middle income countries

Accessibility and inclusion within transport systems is increasingly becoming a development priority area in low and middle income countries. My research goes beyond this area of accessibility, as it focuses on inclusive mobility during the journey of a person with disability, such as from their home to their bus stop, and analyses whether various aspects of the journey are accessible and therefore inclusive. I am working with a partner of UCL's The Bartlett Development Planning Unit, the 'Global Disability Innovation Hub', which is also investigating the role of assistive technology in mobility and transportation via an ongoing collaborative action-based project with the Sierra Leone Urban Research Centre. I am also researching how individual financial access affects the use of assistive technology.

As an urban planner, I am understanding more about how I can help develop socially just and sustainable cities through collaborative and participatory planning. During the COVID-19 pandemic, my fieldwork with the Indonesian community architect group 'ArkomJogja' moved online but I was still able to engage with this organisation and local community member

organisations. Our focus shifted to address various immediate pandemic-related problems within the community, such as employment, government and other agency support, housing, and infrastructure-related issues. Through desk-based research and building frameworks we identified possible practical solutions to similar situations which may arise in the future, and how our cities could be designed proactively to protect them from such crises. We provided the community with successful case studies which can be easily implemented and offered to stay connected for any other advocacy-related support.

Interactions with community members provided us with insights on many important issues, which we would have otherwise missed. Action-orientated projects such as these, which involve partnerships between academics and professionals in the field, contribute towards development impact by bringing about social and spatial justice in low and middle income countries.

My Scholarship has given me opportunities to boost my interpersonal skills and adapt to a multicultural environment, expand my personal and professional network, practice

'Commonwealth Scholarships train future leaders to approach their sustainable development work through an equality lens. By using their talents and influence to build capacity within their communities, between groups within countries, and internationally, Scholars inspire others to help reduce disparities of distribution and opportunity.'

**Professor Mary Stiasny OBE, CSC Commissioner**



**Smriti Dhingra**

2019 Commonwealth Scholar

India

MSc Urban Development Planning

University College London

working in partnership with local, national, and international organisations during development scenarios, and enable me to inspire other individuals to study similar courses and bring about sustainable change in the future. Urban planning organisations will benefit from my knowledge of disability needs and inclusive design. I eventually would like to use the inspiration and experience which this year has provided me with to start my own project on inclusive urban planning in India.



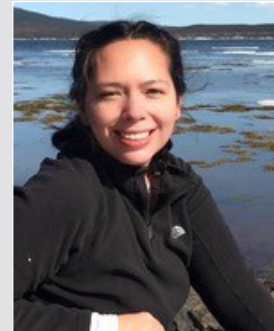
829

alumni were added to the database

## Inuit perspectives on health and social issues in Nunatsiavut, Canada

My research focuses on how global processes and issues influence Inuit health and society, particularly in the north-eastern Nunatsiavut region. I am working with the local Nunatsiavut community of Rigolet to learn how residents perceive and understand a recently constructed hydroelectric project. My project considers how people believe this project will affect their health, and the types of health risk communication strategies and public programming they believe is needed to feel safe. Through this, I contemplate topics of global importance such as indigenous rights, energy production, environmental degradation, and food systems.

This project gives space for Inuit to raise their concerns and discuss issues that they feel are important with a fellow Inuk researcher. The findings of the research can then be implemented back into the community, allowing participants to directly benefit from their own knowledge, to be consolidated throughout this project. Other direct beneficiaries include policymakers and community organisations who can use the innovative knowledge generated throughout the research process to create effective programming.



**Jessica Penney**

2018 Commonwealth Scholar  
(Funded by the Department for Education)

**Canada**

PhD in Sociology

University of Glasgow

## Using self-help groups to facilitate micro-entrepreneurialism in India

Significant increases in urban slum populations in India have been observed over the years. Currently, 30% of citizens living in Bangalore, 32% in Madurai, and 36% in Hyderabad live in urban slums, and millions are added to the total living in them every year.

Self-help groups (SHGs) are community-based groups comprising 10-20 individuals from a similar socioeconomic background who seek to address their common problems. SHGs are an effective strategy for poverty alleviation, human development, and social empowerment as they focus on microcredit programmes and income-generating activities to support each other to improve their livelihoods.

As a Project Coordinator in the Bangalore Office of the Entrepreneurship Development Institute of India (EDII), I am currently handling the SATTVA Project (Sanskrit for 'inner strength'), supported by the HCL Foundation, which focuses on strengthening SHGs to create livelihood opportunities

among urban poor women in Bangalore, Madurai, and Hyderabad through Women Skillpreneurship Development Programs (WSDP).

We aim to train 450 urban poor women to become micro-entrepreneurs through building their business and digital literacy skills, credit and market links, and providing hands-on training and upscaling operations. All this builds SHG capacities and improves incomes and livelihoods.

During COVID-19, we have worked with over 30 rural women micro-entrepreneurs trained by EDII to produce much-needed items, including face masks, handwash, and soap, which were distributed to urban poor families and healthcare professionals to help protect them from the virus. We have distributed Relief Kits to over 450 urban poor families in Bangalore and Madurai and to 43 healthcare professionals and community workers in Bangalore. Production and distribution is continuing, with products being provided to government



**Nicku Abraham Mathew**

2016 Commonwealth Shared Scholar

**India**

MSc Leadership for Sustainable Rural Development

Queen's University Belfast

offices, hospitals, banks, old age homes, and for free to homeless people.

In response to the ongoing impact of lockdown on livelihoods, including loss of daily wages and depletion of savings, the SATTVA team and I developed a model to deliver training to more women in the production of face masks, handwash, and cleaning agents to meet current demand and prevent them from extreme poverty.



**5.1%**

The CSC continued to focus on the proportion of administration and programme management costs to maximise the proportion of scholarships and fellowships resources and directly related activities. This year administration and programme management costs amounted to 5.1% of the total budget

# 2019-2020 indicators of impact

**96%** of 2019 FCDO-funded awards are for citizens of least developed and lower middle income countries and fragile states

**97%** of those across all FCDO-funded programmes finishing awards in the report year returned to live/work in their home country or another low or middle income country

Our mix of application routes enables governments in low and middle income countries to nominate candidates in line with their national development priorities. In this report year, these included:  
 Education, Economic Development, Agriculture, Health, Science, Engineering & Technology, Climate Change, Environment, Governance and Security, Water Resource Management, Infrastructure, Human Capital Development, Tourism Management, Energy including Renewable Energy, Food Security, Poverty Reduction, Disaster Management and Resilience.

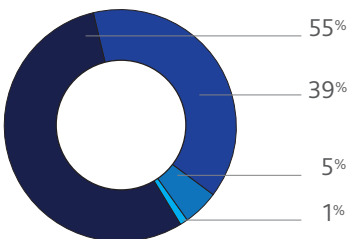
**94%** of award holders think awards are relevant to the needs of their home country

**100%** of alumni have used the skills and knowledge that they acquired on award and/or made changes in workplace

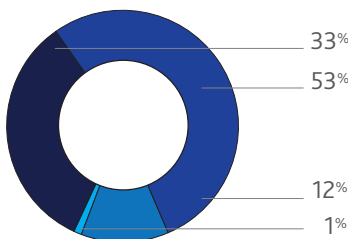
**90%** of alumni Scholars (and 100% of alumni Fellows) report continued contact with UK institutions and/or professional networks in the UK

## Our alumni are using the skills gained from their award

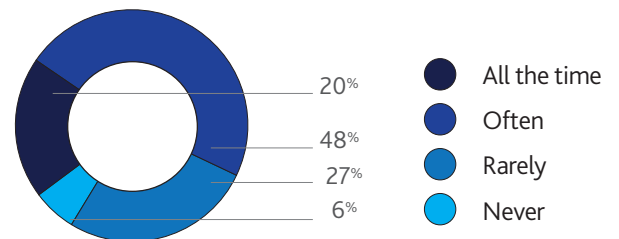
Applying skills at work



Transferring skills to others



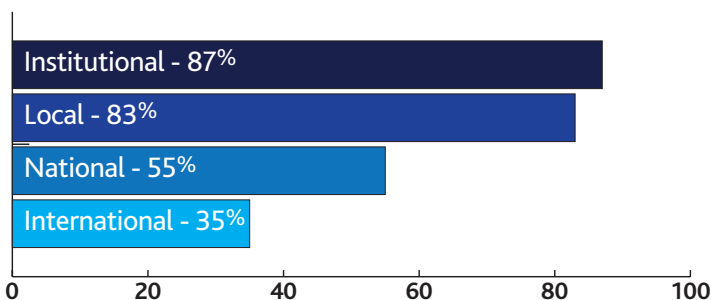
Advocating change



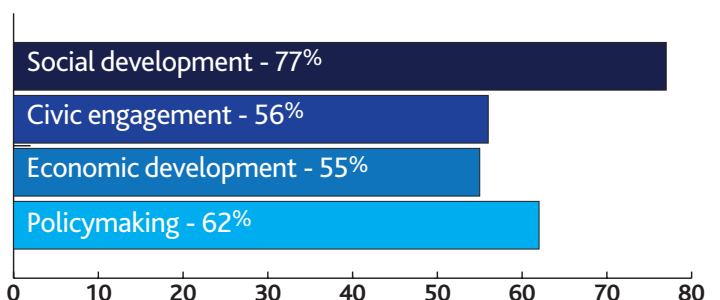
- All the time
- Often
- Rarely
- Never

## Our alumni are having impact on their institutions – and beyond

Level of impact reported



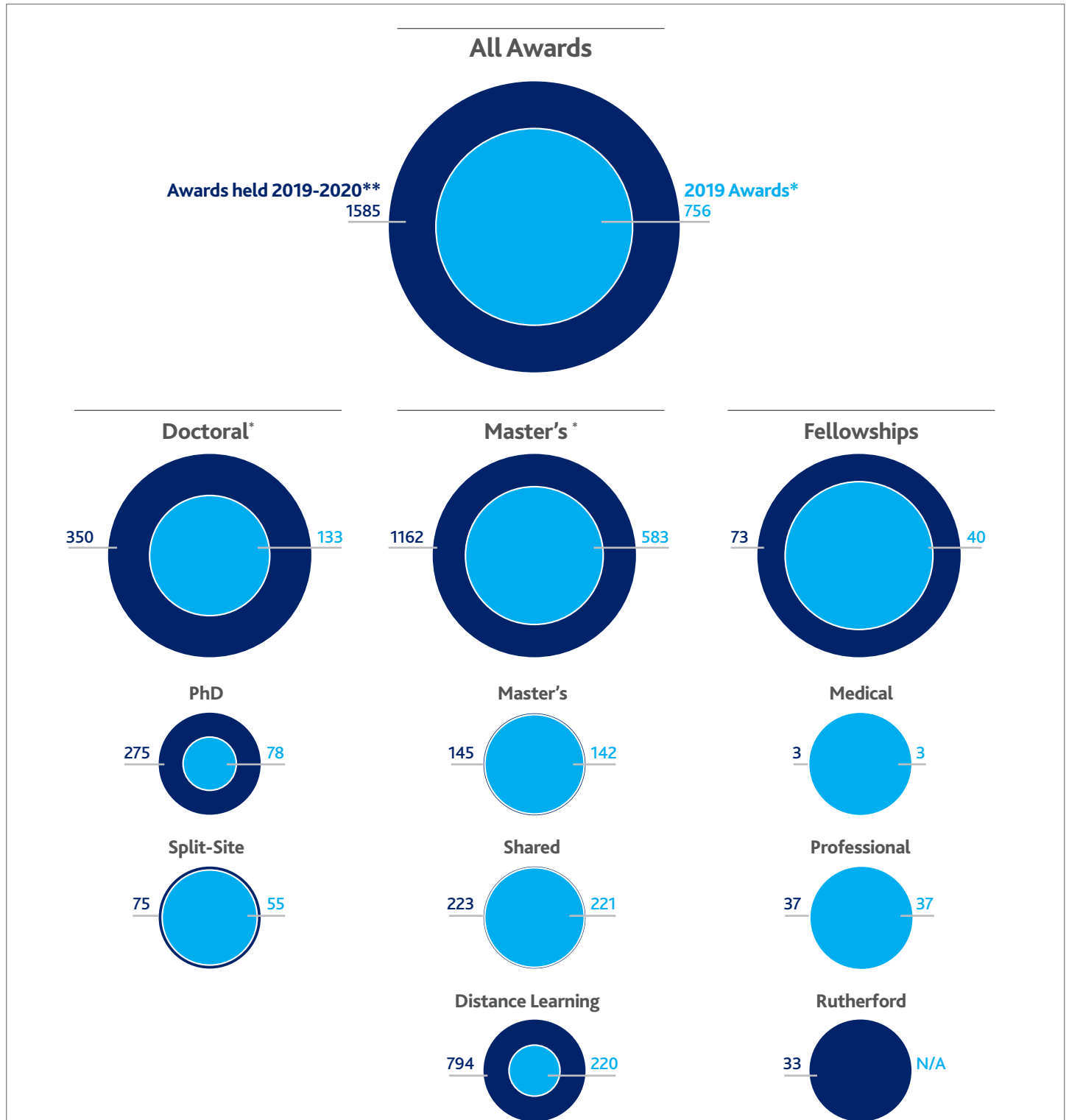
This impact happens in different ways





# Our awards

The figures below show the total number of awards held in 2019-20 (which are the larger figures in each diagram), and include both continuers from previous years and new awards taken up in 2019-20. The smaller figures show the new awards taken up in 2019-20 only.



\* Includes 4 awards funded by DfE

\*\* Includes 13 awards funded by DfE

There are 24 new 2019 awards for the Time Limited Programme for disability-related study:

- 5 Shared Scholarships
- 19 Distance Learning Scholarships

Within the Awards Held 19-20 figures, 1 PhD Scholar and 1 Masters Scholar from the Time Limited Programme for The Gambia were on award.

# Our Partners: nominating agencies

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

Ministry of Education, Science and Technology

## **Antigua and Barbuda**

Ministry of Education

## **Bangladesh**

University Grants Commission of Bangladesh

## **Bangladesh**

Ministry of Public Service, Energy and Public Utilities

## **Belize**

Ministry of Tertiary Education, Research, Science and Technology

## **Botswana**

Ministry of Higher Education (MINESUP)

## **Cameroon**

Ministry of Education and Human Resource Development

## **Dominica**

eSwatini Government, Ministry of Public Service

## **eSwatini**

Tertiary Scholarships and Loans Board

## **Fiji**

Ghana Scholarships Secretariat

## **Ghana**

Ministry of Education & Human Resource Development

## **Grenada**

Ministry of the Presidency

## **Guyana**

Ministry of Human Resource Development

## **India**

Ministry of Finance & the Public Service

## **Jamaica**

Ministry of Education

## **Kenya**

Public Service Office

## **Kiribati**

National Manpower Development Secretariat

## **Lesotho**

Department of Human Resource Management and Development

## **Malawi**

Public Service Department

## **Malaysia**

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

## **Mauritius**

Human Resources Management Unit

## **Montserrat**

Ministry of Education and Human Development

## **Mozambique**

The Namibia Students Financial Assistance Fund

## **Namibia**

Ministry of Education

## **Nauru**

Federal Scholarship Board

## **Nigeria**

Higher Education Commission

## **Pakistan**

Department of Personnel Management

## **Papua New Guinea**

Higher Education Council

## **Rwanda**

St Helena Education & Employment Directorate

Education Learning Centre

## **Saint Helena**

Department of Education, Innovation and Gender Relations

## **Saint Lucia**

Service Commissions Department

## **Saint Vincent and The Grenadines**

Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Trade

## **Samoa**

Ministry of Education, Science and Technology

## **Sierra Leone**

Ministry of Education and Human Resource Development

## **Solomon Islands**

Higher Education and Training

## **South Africa**

Ministry of Higher Education

## **Sri Lanka**

Ministry of Education, Science and Technology

## **Tanzania**

Ministry of Higher Education, Research & Science and Technology

## **The Gambia**

Ministry of Education and Training

## **Tonga**

Department of Human Resources

## **Tuvalu**

Ministry of Education and Sports

## **Uganda**

Training & Scholarships Coordination Unit (TSCU)

Ministry of Education

## **Vanuatu**

Higher Education Loans and Scholarships Board

## **Zambia**

## **NGOs and charitable bodies:**

Canon Collins Trust

Forum for African Women Educationalists (FAWE)

Leonard Cheshire

High-Achieving, Low-Income (HALI) Access Network

Pacific Disability Forum

Wellcome Trust

Windle Trust International

# Academic advisers

Our selections were guided by a panel of over 300 academic advisers during the report year, including internationally-renowned experts in all subject areas, who receive no remuneration for reviewing applications. The CSC is enormously grateful to them.

Dr. Qammer H Abbasi	Professor Mike Calnan	Professor Sherif El Khamisy	Professor David Hassan
Dr. Purva Abhyankar	Dr. Christine Campbell	FRSC, FRSB	Professor Daniel Haydon
Professor Sinan Acikgoz	Dr. Matthew Campbell	Professor Robert Elliott	Dr. Alan Javier Hernandez
Dr. Omar Al Tabbaa	Dr. Wayne Carter	Dr. Charis Enns	Alvarez
Professor Ashraf Alam	Dr. Dave Carter	Dr. Hannah Ensaff	Professor Malcom Higgs
Dr. Fabrizio Alberti	Professor Justin Champion	Dr. Rob Ewing	Professor Allan G. Hill
Professor Stuart Allan	Dr. Frederick Changwony	Dr. Raziye Farmani	Professor Mark Hodson
Dr. Christopher Allen	Professor Tracey Chapman	Professor Helen Fenwick	Professor Michael Holdsworth
Professor Tim Allen	Professor Nic Cheeseman	Professor Fragkiskos Filippaios	Professor David Hopkins
Professor Henrice Altink	Dr. Ernest Chi Fru	Professor Clare Finburgh Delijani	Dr. Mathew Horrocks
Professor David Anderson	Dr. Simeon Coleman	Professor Leslie Firbank	Dr. Alton Horsfall
Professor Annie S Anderson	Professor David Collins	Professor Andrew Fleming	Dr. Mamdud Hossain
Professor Ivan Andonovic	Professor David Collison	Dr. Johann Fortwengel	Professor Zhu Hua
Professor Ruth Andrew	Dr. Kieran Michael Conroy	Professor John Fossey	Dr. Stephen Hurt
Professor Simon Andrews	Professor Stephen Coombes	Dr. Nunzianda Frascione	Professor Tom Hutchinson
Professor James Annett	Dr. William Coombs	Professor David Fraser	Dr. Jaci Huws
Professor Timothy Arnett	Dr. Martin Crapper	Professor Laura Galloway	Professor Munir Iqbal
Dr. Salma Ayis	Professor Richard Craster	Dr. Lucia Garcia Lorenzo	Dr. Venkat Iyer
Dr. Juan Baeza	Professor John Crowe	Professor Sayantan Ghosal	Professor Parmjit Jat
Professor Liz Baggs	Dr. Alan Cuthbertson	Dr. Emanuele Giorgi	Professor Nick Jenkins
Dr. Hamed Bahmani	Dr. Parviz Dabir Alai	Professor Richard Giulianotti	Dr. Michael Jennings
Dr. Susan Barker	Professor Jo Darkwa	Professor Jon Gluyas	Professor Mark A Jobling
Dr. Kashinath Basu	Professor Gail Davey	Dr. Cristina Gonzalez Longo	Professor Ian Jones
Professor Paul Beaumont	Professor Simon Davies	Professor Jonathan Goodhand	Professor Robert Kalin
Professor Steve Beeby	Professor Simin Davoudi	Professor Nandini Gooptu	Professor Uma Kambhampati
Dr. Bibek Bhatta	Professor Jonathan Dawes	Dr. Neil Gordon	Professor Kevin Keasey
Professor Sanjoy Bhattacharya	Professor Susan Dawson	Professor Paul Gready	Dr. Jonathan Kennedy
Dr. Richard Blanchard	Professor Antonella De Santo	Professor Peter Gregory	Professor Brendan Kenny
Dr. Barbara Bompani	Professor Veronica Della Dora	Professor Fares Haddad	Dr. Mohamed Khamis
Dr. Christine Bosch	Dr. Nicola Desmond	Professor Geoff Haddock	Professor Hafiz Khan
Dr. Peter Bourdillon	Professor Prasanta Kumar Dey	Professor Malcolm Halcrow	Dr. Janine Kirby
Professor Michael Bowe	Dr. Xavier Donadeu	Professor Gerard Hamill	Professor Susan Kirk
Professor Chris Bowen	Professor Han Dorussen	Dr. Daniel Hammett	Dr. Charles W. Knapp
Dr. Naomi Brooks	Professor Isabel dos Santos Silva	Professor Robert Hampson	Professor Richard Kneller
Professor David Brown	Dr. Alex Douglas	Dr. Sally Hancock	Dr. Geoffery Zain Kohe
Professor Andrew Brown	Professor Angela Druckman	Dr. Thomas Obel Hansen	Professor Paul Kong Thoo Lin
Professor Nick Brown	Professor Robert Dryfe	Professor Jenny Harding	Professor Jozef Konings
Dr. Emma Burnett	Dr. Byron Dueck	Dr. Michael Harker	Professor Konstantinos Kontis
Professor Andrew Bush	Dr. Leslie Anne Duvic Paoli	Professor Catherine Harper	Professor Panicos Kyriacou
Dr. Amanda Callaghan FSB, FRES, SFHEA	Professor Caroline Dyer	Professor Jackie Harrison	Professor Ilias Kyriazakis
	Professor Mark Eisler	Professor Oubay Hassan	Dr. Ka Po Lam

Dr. Emma Lane	Dr. Bukola Onarinde	Professor Suleiman Sharkh	Dr. Bethany Waterhouse Bradley
Dr. Gloria Chepngeno Langat	Dr. Josue Ortega	Dr. Tania Sharmin	Dr. Andrew Watson
Professor Jane Langdale	Professor David Osrin	Dr. Katie Shaw	Dr. Emily Webb
Professor Susan Lanham New	Professor Bikash Pal	Dr. Siddharudha Shivalli	Dr. Landis Jared West
Professor Hadi Larijani	Dr. George Palattiyil	Dr. Javed Siddiqui	Dr. Gabrielle Wheway
Dr. King Hang Aaron Lau	Dr. Donald Maxwell Parkin	Dr. Sajid Siraj	Professor William Wisden
Professor Mike Lean	Dr. Edoardo Patelli	Dr. Tom Sizmur	Professor Geof Wood
Professor Siow Ming Lee	Dr. Chris Paterson	Professor Lesley Smith	Professor Adrian Wood
Dr. Yuhua Li	Professor Sheila Patrick	Dr. Jake Snaddon	Dr. Gaston Yalonzky
Dr. Pavel Loskot	Professor Helen Petrie	Dr. Panos Sousounis	Dr. Fred Yamoah
Dr. Antonio Miguel Loureiro	Professor Richard Phillips	Dr. Deborah Sporton	Dr. Junli Yang
Professor Julie Lovegrove	Dr. Kim Picozzi	Dr. Heidi Stockl	Dr. Longzhi Yang
Professor Nicola Lowe	Professor Kypros Pilakoutas	Professor Jane Stuart Smith	Dr. Pamela Yeow
Professor Daniel Mackay	Professor Martin Powell	Professor Stephen Sturzenbaum	Dr. Gabriela Zapata Lancaster
Dr. Sean Mackay	Professor David Pyle	Dr. Hongjian Sun	Dr. Sharif Zein
Professor Douglas C MacMillan	Dr. Aleksandar Radu	Dr. Sirin Sung	Professor David Zhang
Professor Gopal Santana Phani	Dr. Mahfuzur Rahman	Professor Susan Taylor	Professor Valentina Zharkova
Madabhushi	Professor Vivek Ranade	Professor Neil Taylor	Professor Peilin Zhou
Professor Koushik Maharatna	Dr. Orsola Rath Spivack	Professor Peter Taylor	
Professor Wolfgang Maier	Dr. J. Arjuna Ratnayaka	Dr. Kasim Terzic	
Ms. Karen E. Makuch	Professor Paul Rea	Dr. Vijay Kumar Thakur	
Dr. Baljinder Mankoo	Professor Emily Reid	Dr. Chandra Thapa	
Dr. John Mason	Dr. Gwendolen Reilly	Professor David Thomas	
Dr. Amanda Mason Jones	Professor Nigel Richards	Professor Ian Thompson	
Dr. Gerard McCann	Professor Jane Rickson	Professor Allen Thurston	
Professor Peter McElevay	Professor Joseph Robson	Professor Iain Todd	
Dr. Alison McFadden	Professor Sudipta Roy	Professor David Toll	
Professor John McGrady	Professor Jonathan Rushton	Professor Howard Tumber	
Professor Jim McGuirk	Dr. Wilber Sabiiti	Dr. Liam Turner	
Dr. Christopher McHugh	Dr. Monower Sadique	Professor Nick Tyler	
Dr. Paula Misiewicz	Dr. Juan Sagaseta	Professor Elaine Unterhalter	
Dr. Alex Money	Professor Neil Sandham	Dr. Heini Vaisanen	
Professor Arumugam	Professor Mark Sandler	Dr. Hans Vandierendonck	
Nallanathan	Dr. Gurchathen Sanghera	Professor Ann Varley	
Professor Richard Napier	Dr. Devendra Saroj	Dr. Kumar Vinod	
Dr. Talat Nasim	Dr. Nick Savage	Dr. Brigitte Vollmer	
Professor Penelope Nestel	Dr. Neetesh Saxena	Professor Zia Wadud	
Professor Stephen T Newman	Dr. Sean Semple	Professor David Walker	
Professor Sarah O'Brien	Professor Bhaskar Sen Gupta	Dr. Darren Walter	
Dr. Haruko Okamoto	Professor Jane Setter	Dr. LiLiang Wang	
Dr. Tjeerd Olde Scheper	Dr. Graeme Shannon	Professor Richard Washington	

# UK universities

The CSC plays an important role in attracting the best and brightest talent to UK universities. In return, universities support the CSC's activities through part funding all scholarship awards, providing matching contributions of £5 million. In the report year, Commonwealth Scholars studied at 92 UK universities.

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

# UK Fellowship host organisations

Through hosting Commonwealth Medical, and Professional Fellows, UK organisations support early and mid-career professionals to develop key skills, as well as building relationships and collaboration with colleagues across the Commonwealth. In the report year, Commonwealth Fellows were hosted by 40 UK organisations.

African Prisons Project	King's College London	Sheffield Health and Social Care NHS Foundation Trust	University of Lincoln
Cardiff Metropolitan University	Knowledge for Change	University Hospitals Birmingham NHS Foundation Trust	University of Liverpool
Cardiff University	Lancaster University	University of Bath	University of Nottingham
Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council	Liverpool John Moores University	University of Bristol	University of Oxford
Conciliation Resources	London North West Healthcare NHS Trust	University of Cambridge	University of Salford
Doncaster and Bassetlaw Foundation NHS Trust	London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine	University of East Anglia	University of Sheffield
Heriot-Watt University	Plymouth Hospitals NHS Trust	University of Edinburgh	University of Southampton
Imperial College London	Queen Mary University of London	University of Glasgow	University of Stirling
Institute of Cancer Research	Royal Hospital for Children Glasgow	University of Leeds	University of Surrey
Institute of Psychiatry, King's College London		University of Leicester	University of York
			World Child Cancer UK

# Overseas organisations

Through Commonwealth Scholarships and Fellowships, overseas organisations benefit from better-qualified staff with increased knowledge and skills, as well as access to international collaboration and partnerships. In the report year, 94 overseas organisations either nominated candidates for or partnered with a UK university on Commonwealth Scholarships and Fellowships.

Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology, **Bangladesh**

Bangladesh University of Textiles, **Bangladesh**

Jatiya Kabi Kazi Nazrul Islam University, **Bangladesh**

Khulna University, **Bangladesh**

University of Chittagong, **Bangladesh**

University of Dhaka, **Bangladesh**

University of Rajshahi, **Bangladesh**

Forestry Research Institute of Ghana, **Ghana**

Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology, Kumasi, **Ghana**

University for Development Studies, **Ghana**

University of Ghana, **Ghana**

University of Health and Allied Sciences, **Ghana**

Alagappa University, **India**

Aligarh Muslim University, **India**

Anna University, **India**

Calcutta Metropolitan Institute of Gerontology, **India**

CSIR-National Physical Laboratory, **India**

Gauhati University, **India**

Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati, **India**

Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad, **India**

Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay, **India**

Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi, **India**

Indian Institute of Technology, Indore, **India**

Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee, **India**

Jadavpur University, **India**

Jawaharlal Nehru University, **India**

National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences, **India**

Panjab University, **India**

School of Planning and Architecture, **India**

Tezpur University, **India**

The International School Bangalore Training Academy, **India**

University Institute of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Panjab University, **India**

University of Delhi, **India**

Vellore Institute of Technology, **India**

Wildlife Institute of India, **India**

University of Technology, Jamaica, **Jamaica**

University of the West Indies, Mona Campus, **Jamaica**

African Centre for Technology Studies, **Kenya**

African Centre for Population and Health Research Centre, **Kenya**

Braeburn Schools, **Kenya**

Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology, **Kenya**

University of Malawi, **Malawi**

Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, **Malaysia**

Universiti Teknologi Malaysia, **Malaysia**

Rushmore Business School, **Mauritius**

University of Mauritius, **Mauritius**

Ahmadu Bello University, **Nigeria**

Ekiti State University, **Nigeria**

Federal University of Technology, Akure, **Nigeria**

Kano University of Technology, Wudil, **Nigeria**

Ladoke Akintola University of Technology, **Nigeria**

Michael Okpara University of Agriculture, Umudike, **Nigeria**

Obafemi Awolowo University, **Nigeria**

University of Benin, **Nigeria**

University of Ibadan, **Nigeria**

University of Ilorin, **Nigeria**

University of Jos, **Nigeria**

University of Lagos, **Nigeria**

University of Nigeria, **Nigeria**

University of Port Harcourt, **Nigeria**

Aga Khan Foundation, **Pakistan**

COMSATS University Islamabad, **Pakistan**

Fatima Jinnah Women's University, **Pakistan**

Information Technology University, **Pakistan**

International Islamic University, **Pakistan**

Lahore University of Management Sciences, **Pakistan**

Mehran University of Engineering and Technology, **Pakistan**

National University of Sciences and Technology, **Pakistan**

Quaid-i-Azam University, **Pakistan**

University of Azad Jammu and Kashmir, **Pakistan**

University of Engineering and Technology, Peshawar, **Pakistan**

University of Peshawar, **Pakistan**

University of the Punjab, Lahore, **Pakistan**

Papua New Guinea University of Technology, **Papua New Guinea**

University of Goroka, **Papua New Guinea**

University of Rwanda College of Medical and Health Sciences, **Rwanda**

University of Cape Town, **South Africa**

University of Pretoria, **South Africa**

University of South Africa, **South Africa**

University of Stellenbosch, **South Africa**

University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, **South Africa**

University of Colombo, **Sri Lanka**

University of Peradeniya, **Sri Lanka**

Institute of Financial Management, Dar es Salaam, **Tanzania**

Nelson Mandela African Institute of Science and Technology, **Tanzania**

The College of Surgeons of East, Central and Southern Africa (COSECSA), **Tanzania**

University of Dar es Salaam, **Tanzania**

University of the West Indies, St Augustine Campus, **Trinidad and Tobago**

Kulika Educational Trust, **Uganda**

Makerere University, **Uganda**

National Environment Management Agency, **Uganda**

National Water and Sewerage Trust, **Uganda**

Uganda Management Institute, **Uganda**

University of Zambia, **Zambia**

# Governance statement

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

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

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

The Commission normally comprises 15 members, including the Chair, who are appointed in accordance with the principles of [the Code of Practice for Ministerial Appointments to Public Bodies](#).

Commissioners are appointed by the Secretary of State for an initial period of three years, with the possibility of reappointment for one further three-year appointment. The Chair and other relevant officers normally meet with relevant Ministers at least annually to discuss the work of the CSC. The Chair of the Commission is the Accounting Officer for the CSC, with responsibility to the Secretary of State for its conduct and performance. A separate statement from the Accounting Officer follows.



# Statement of Accounting Officer's responsibilities

## A) Corporate governance report

### I. Commissioners' report

#### Organisational Structure

---

Mr Richard Middleton (Chair and Accounting Officer)

Professor Anne Anderson (Deputy Chair)

Page 37 lists the membership of the CSC

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

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

Some pre-award and post award services are also provided by the British Council under the terms of a separate MOU between the CSC and the British Council.

#### Register of Interests

---

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

#### Diversity and Inclusion

---

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

#### Personal Data Incidents

---

There were no personal data incidents in 2019-20.

## II. Statement of Commission's and Accounting Officer's responsibilities

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

- Observe any Accounts Direction issued by the Secretary of State, including the relevant accounting and disclosure requirements, and apply suitable accounting policies on a consistent basis
- Make judgments and estimates on a reasonable basis

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

Commencing in May 2017, the Minister for International Development led an internal review of the Commission. Working with the CSC to develop a new strategy, the FCDO Minister confirmed that FCDO would increase its grant, supporting CSC over a three-year period beginning in April 2018. The Commission is now in the third year of this three-year strategy.

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

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

## III. Governance statement

The CSC was established under the 1959 Act to:

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

The Commission consists of a chair and not less than nine nor more than fourteen members appointed by the Secretary of State, of whom not less than four shall be appointed as holders of high academic office. Commissioners are volunteers and receive no remuneration. The Chair receives an annual stipend of £12,000.

#### The Commission and its Committees consider the following matters annually:

- Government policy as it applies to the CSC and the Scholarships
- CSC's governance, membership and policies
- CSC's audit and risk management

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

### **Governance Framework**

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

### **Commissioner attendance at full meetings was as follows in 2019-2020**

- Mr Richard Middleton (Chair) 100% 3/3
- Professor Madeleine Arnot 100% 3/3
- Professor Anne Anderson 100% 3/3
- Mr Sandy Balfour 100% 1/1 (to end of April 2020)
- Professor Brian Faragher 100% 3/3
- Professor Sarah Hawkes 100% 2/2 (from 11 May 2020)
- Professor Claire Heffernan 100% 1/1 (to May 2020)
- Professor Paul Jackson 66% 2/3
- Ms Emma Judge 66% 2/3
- Ms Sarah Laessig 0% 0/1 (to end of April 2020)
- Professor Catherine MacKenzie 100% 2/2 (from 11 May 2020)
- Professor Nuala McGrath 100% 3/3
- Professor Morag McDonald 100% 2/2 (from 11 May 2020)
- Dr Jennie Robinson 0% 0/1 (to end of December 2019)
- Professor Alfredo Saad Filho 66% 2/3
- Professor Mary Stiasny 33% 1/3
- Dr Christine Thuraniira-McKeever 100% 2/2 (from 11 May 2020)
- Professor John Wood 100% 2/2 (from 11 May 2020)

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

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

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

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

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

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

### **The Finance Committee advises the CSC and Accounting Officer on:**

- Budgets made available to the Commission from Government Departments and policy set by the Commission to ensure that these are appropriately allocated and properly accounted for
- Arrangements through which the Commission presents its accounts; and on approval of end-of-year expenditure reported by its service providers
- Proposals from service providers for the costs of providing the menu of agreed services in the following financial year, and recommendations to the Commission as appropriate; and on satisfaction with the internal controls in place for the management of expenditure
- The MoU or other contractual arrangements which exist between the Commission, its sponsors and its main service suppliers

- Forecast award expenditure and any action taken in the event of significant forecast budgetary under- or over-spend
- A budget to meet the Commission's operating costs and any action taken in the event of significant forecast budgetary under- or over-spend
- A budget to meet the costs for the Commission's Engagement and Alumni Strategies, and for programmes of Recruitment and Outreach, and Monitoring and Evaluation; and on any action taken in the event of significant forecast budgetary under- or over-spend against these headings
- The formal record of recommendations made to selection committee chairs for the allocation of resources to new awards

### Commission Performance

During 2019/20 the Chair had individual conversations with each Commissioner due for review. These meetings focused on Commission performance and individual contributions. Commissioners also had the opportunity to relay via FCDO any feedback on the performance of the Chair. The Commission is taking forward the recommendations and template provided by FCDO IAD in their recent audit of Commission Board Effectiveness in order to undertake an annual review of Commission effectiveness from 2020.

All Scholars are surveyed each year on the effectiveness of the Scholarship and its administration as part of the anonymous survey and the results of this survey are reviewed by the Evaluation and Monitoring Committee. In 2019/20, 92% of Scholars reported that the support they had received from CSC had been excellent or good.

### Corporate Governance Code

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

### Risk Assessment

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

#### The CSC's risk policy is that it:

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

The CSC's Risk Framework and Register incorporate this approach to risk management, and the roles and responsibilities of the CSC

and its Secretariat and its risk management processes. The CSC and its Secretariat seek guidance where appropriate from FCDO on risk management issues and in the year of report commissioned an audit of Board Effectiveness from FCDO Internal Audit Department in order to build on the work undertaken following the previous audit of CSC Governance. The CSC and its Secretariat conduct risk assessments of relevant higher risk activities, e.g. a risk assessment is undertaken for all CSC-organised events.

CSC has a Risk Framework and a Risk Register which is reviewed three times a year by the Audit and Risk Management Committee and by the full Commission once a year. CSC did not face any severe risks after mitigation in 2019/20, although Covid-19 posed a significant risk during the period which the Commission had to monitor closely and take action to mitigate the effect both on its Scholars and operations.

### Scope of responsibility

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

### The purpose of the system of internal control

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than to eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives. The system of internal control is based on an ongoing process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of CSC policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised, and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically. The system of internal control has been in place for the year ended 31 March 2020 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and accords with Treasury guidance.

The Secretariat regularly reports to the Commission on expenditure to date, forecast outturn and projections for future years. These projections enable the CSC to assess the potential impact of increased tuition and maintenance fees. The CSC has considered, together with the FCDO representative, the impact of any changes in entry requirements for Scholars.

Relevant administrative staff have obtained accreditation (Level 1) with the Office of the Immigration Services Commissioner (OISC).

The CSC works closely with FCDO's United Nations and Commonwealth Department, which is represented at meetings of the Commission and its Finance Committee.

## Review of effectiveness

---

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

## Data Quality

---

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

CSC is assured that ACU has systems in place to ensure that all personal data is handled in compliance with GDPR and has access to professional advice in this area. ACU offers regular training to ensure that its staff are kept up to date on Data Protection and GDPR compliance, and CSC has asked FCDO IAD to undertake an audit of GDPR during the 2020/21 financial year.

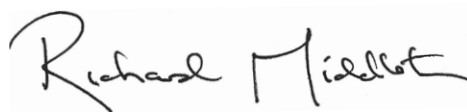
## B) Remuneration and staff report

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

## C) Parliamentary accountability and audit report

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

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



**Richard Middleton**

Chair

# Membership of the Commonwealth Scholarship Commission in the UK

## Richard Middleton

Chair, Commonwealth Scholarship Commission in the UK

---

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

## Professor Anne Anderson OBE

Deputy Chair, Commonwealth Scholarship Commission in the UK

---

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

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

## Professor Madeleine Arnot

Emeritus Professor of Sociology of Education, Jesus College, University of Cambridge

---

For over 40 years, I have taught and researched gender, poverty and social justice issues in education in the UK, Europe and the Commonwealth. I currently advise on migration and the education of displaced youth, and edit a monograph series on Education, Poverty and International Development.

## Sandy Balfour (to 30 April 2020)

---

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

## Dr. Nick Brown

(to 31 October 2019)

Principal, Linacre College, University of Oxford

---

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

## Professor David Cope

(to 31 October 2019)

Foundation Fellow, Clare Hall, University of Cambridge

---

For 14 years I was Director of the UK Parliament's Science and Technology Office (POST). I have some expertise in pollution control technologies.

I became a Commissioner in 2013, particularly to help its work in areas such as energy, environment, earth sciences and engineering but I have a particular interest in the interlinkages between the development themes that the Commission is promoting and particularly the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

I promote these aspirations and results at the University of Cambridge through several of its pioneering Centres. These support Commonwealth people - Scholars and Fellows - but more widely, I work to encourage all UK universities to engage with these critical issues.

## Professor Brian Faragher

Emeritus Professor of Medical Statistics at the Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine (LSTM)

---

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

## Professor Sarah Hawkes

(From 11 May 2020)

**Professor OF Global Health, University College London**

I am Professor of Global Public Health at UCL, where I also lead the Centre for Gender and Global Health. I undertake research on the evidence-to-policy process and work with both the multilateral systems and national governments to promote gender-responsive policies to improve health.

## Professor Claire Heffernan

(to 15 May 2020)

**Director, London International Development Centre**

My work at the LIDC focuses on facilitating interdisciplinary and solutions-based research across seven University of London institutions aimed at addressing critical challenges in international development. Current thematic areas include nutrition, health agriculture, humanitarian emergencies, zoonotic diseases, impact evaluation and education. I am Principal Investigator on the UKRI GCRF Action against Stunting Hub which aims to transform current research on child undernutrition and stunting.

## Professor Paul Jackson

**Professor of African Politics and Director of Research, College of Social Science, University of Birmingham**

As a former Director of the International Development Department at the University of Birmingham I have a lot of experience of working with Commonwealth Scholars at postgraduate level. I am Director of Research for the social sciences at Birmingham and a researcher with extensive experience across the Global South, specialising in post-conflict environments and governance. I also sit on several international committees, including the UN Committee of Experts on Public Administration, where I am responsible for monitoring SDG16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions).

## Emma Judge

I am an international development consultant and writer, with a special interest in disability, health and education, and more than 25 years' experience of living and working in Africa, Asia and Latin America for INGOs and government agencies, helping facilitate sustainable social and economic change for vulnerable and disadvantaged people.

## Sarah Laessig

(to 30 April 2020)

**Civil Service Commissioner**

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

## Dr. Catherine Mackenzie

(from 11 May 2020)

**Chair, Audit & Risk Management Committee. Dean of Degrees, Green Templeton College Oxford & Bye-Fellow, Homerton College Cambridge**

As a former Commonwealth Scholar myself (UK to Australia 1995-99), I have a long term commitment to upholding the values of the Commonwealth and to ensuring that CSC continues to play an important role in the UK's development aid strategy, helping to build a safer, healthier and more prosperous world. My own area of expertise, international environmental law, corresponds closely with the SDGs and as a barrister, I have a particular commitment to upholding the rule of law and promoting good governance. In addition to my role as a Commonwealth Scholarship Commissioner, I hold leadership roles in the legal profession and in legal, architectural and agricultural education and training.

## Professor Morag Mcdonald

(from 11 May 2020)

**Dean of College of Environmental Sciences & Engineering at Bangor University**

I am Professor of Ecology and Catchment Management at Bangor University. I have been an active researcher in international environmental issues for over 25 years, with broad research expertise in forest restoration through fallow management. I have field experience in 14 countries across Africa, Asia and Latin America.

## Professor Nuala McGrath

**NIHR Global Health Professor at the University of Southampton**

I am a Professor of Epidemiology and Sexual Health at the University of Southampton, and NIHR Global Health Professor. I work primarily on HIV and STIs in Sub-Saharan Africa. I have spent more than 25 years strengthening research capacity at research institutions in sub-Saharan Africa and training future global health specialists.

**Dr. Jennie Robinson**  
(to 31 December 2019)

**University of Leeds**

---

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

**Professor Alfredo Saad-Filho**

**Professor of Political Economy and International  
Development at King's College London**

---

I was the Senior Economics Affairs Officer at the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development between 2011-12. I am in my first term at the CSC, and am particularly interested in the fields of economic growth and development, globalisation, and the international economic order.

**Professor Mary Stiasny OBE**

**Pro-Vice Chancellor (International) University Of London  
And Chief Executive University Of London International  
Programmes.**

---

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

**Dr. Christine Thurania-McKeever**  
(from 11 May 2020)

**Director of Distance Learning, Royal Veterinary College  
(RVC), University of London**

---

In my role, I work with post graduate students from around the world and have supported many cohorts of Commonwealth Scholars over the last ten years. As part of this work, I also regularly engage with institutions in the global south to create partnerships to support students and in so doing, help strengthen their institutional capacity. My academic background is in agricultural economics and I spent the early part of my career working in international development.

**Professor John Wood CBE, Freng**  
(from 11 May 2020)

---

I am a materials scientist by background focusing on non-equilibrium processing of materials. I have held academic posts at several UK universities and ended my academic career as Principal of the Faculty of Engineering at Imperial College in London. Before that I was seconded from Nottingham University to the Central UK laboratories as Chief Executive and became heavily involved in international research policy and research infrastructures including as a founder director of the Diamond Light Source. After Imperial College I was appointed Secretary-General of the Association of Commonwealth Universities. I remain a consultant to CERN in Geneva and to the European Commission. I hold a number of honorary professorships at UK universities. I chair the advisory board of the Spanish Energy Institute.

# Alumni Advisory Panel

The CSC's Alumni Advisory Panel facilitates the participation of Commonwealth Alumni in consultation exercises and pilot studies to support the development of CSC activities, and provides the opportunity for alumni to take a more active role in evaluation and monitoring work. The panel also provides a mechanism to draw on the wealth of research and other knowledge and skills available to the Commission through the CSC Alumni Network.

The current panel, recruited in August 2019 for the term 2019–2021, comprises 101 Commonwealth Alumni and represents the CSC's diverse range of schemes, countries, and subjects of study. In the report year, the panel have consulted on the following four activities: providing feedback on the CSC's online development module, 'Understanding Development Impact'; providing insight into distance learning experiences to inform the development of a review into the CSC's distance learning programmes; taking part in a review and validation activity on the recent Diary Studies pilot project; and sharing feedback on return experiences immediately post-Scholarship and any challenges and enabling factors to impact experienced, to inform on the support provided to Scholars at this award stage.

Feedback from the panel has informed developments to each of these activities and contributed to ongoing work across CSC teams.

The below members comprise nearly the entire Panel and have agreed to have their names published in this year's Annual Report to Parliament:

**Professor Fati Astapawa Adamu**, 2007 Commonwealth Split-Site Scholar from Nigeria

**Stephen Adombire**, 2017 Commonwealth Shared Scholar from Ghana

**Emmanuel Akpabio**, 2004 Commonwealth Split-Site Scholar from Nigeria

**Professor Margaret Akpomi**, 2007 Commonwealth Academic Fellow from Nigeria

**Md Arafat Alam**, 2013 Commonwealth Shared Scholar from Bangladesh

**Professor Upali S. Amarasinghe**, 1999 Commonwealth Academic Fellow from Sri Lanka

**Samuel Frimpong Amoako**, 2015 Commonwealth Shared Scholar from Ghana

**Ram Niwas Arya**, 2002 Commonwealth Shared Scholar from India

**Dr. Enowntai Nkongho Ayukotang**, 2016 Commonwealth Scholar from Cameroon

**Olusola Oluwasina Babalola**, 2006 Commonwealth Scholar from Nigeria

**Alpha U. Bah**, 2014 Commonwealth Scholar from Sierra Leone

**Professor Rishi Kumar Bali**, 2009 Commonwealth Scholar from India

**Audra Bolton**, 2014 Commonwealth Shared Scholar from Jamaica

**Professor Callistus W. Baliddawa**, 1980 Commonwealth Scholar from Uganda

**Yvonne Chigumira**, 2015 Commonwealth Shared Scholar from Zimbabwe

**Professor M. Jahangir Alam Chowdhury**, 1997 Commonwealth Scholar from Bangladesh

**Dr. Emmanuel Dugan**, 2008 Commonwealth Scholar from Ghana; 2016 Academic Fellow

**Dr. Saima Eman**, 2012 Commonwealth Scholar from Pakistan

**Etsula Olive**, 2009 Commonwealth Shared Scholar from Kenya

**Afolabi Julius Fajemilo**, 2014 Commonwealth Professional Fellow

**Professor Biswas Farhana Karabi**, 2001 Commonwealth Scholar from Bangladesh

**Professor Abdullah Al Faruque**, 2001 Commonwealth Scholar from Bangladesh; 2009 Academic Fellow

**Cherisse Francis**, 2017 Commonwealth Scholar from Barbados

**Dr. Tusharkanti Ghosh**, 1998 Commonwealth Scholar from India

**Dr. Chee Peng, Hor**, 2011 Commonwealth Distance Learning Scholar from Malaysia

**Samuel M. Imathiu**, 2003 Commonwealth Shared Scholar from Kenya

**Dr. Haseeb Md. Irfanullah**, 2001 Commonwealth Scholar from Bangladesh

**Dr. Md Rashedul Islam**, 2012 Commonwealth Shared Scholar from Bangladesh

**Professor Vijith Samantha Jayamanne**, 2002 Commonwealth Scholar from Sri Lanka; 2015 Academic Fellow

**Daniel Jeryot Kirui**, 2010 Commonwealth Distance Learning Scholar from Kenya

**Dr Judith Kabajulizi**, 2010 Commonwealth Scholar from Uganda

**Fredrick Otieno Kamonde**, 2013 Commonwealth Professional Fellow from Kenya

**Tukiya Kanguya**, 2016 Commonwealth Scholar from Zambia

**Dr. Kathiresan Ramanathan**, 1997 Commonwealth Academic Fellow from India

**Professor Francis Kemausuor**, 2005 Commonwealth Shared Scholar from Ghana

**Nabiha Khan**, 2014 Commonwealth Shared Scholar from Pakistan

**Dr. Kitiabi Kiti Reginah**, 1999 Commonwealth Scholar from Kenya



- Dr. Patience Kerubo Kiyuka**, 2013 Commonwealth Distance Learning Scholar from Kenya
- Deepa Kylasam Iyer**, 2017 Commonwealth Shared Scholar from India
- Dr. Dacia Latoya Leslie**, 2011 Commonwealth Scholar from Jamaica
- Dr. Mark Levick**, 1994 Commonwealth Scholar from Australia
- Alphart Lungu**, 2015 Commonwealth Scholar from Zambia
- Dr. Thelma Kgakgamatso Tlhaselo-Majela**, 2001 Commonwealth Scholar from Botswana
- Dr. Muhammad Imran Majid**, 2006 Commonwealth Scholar from Pakistan; 2017 Academic Fellow
- Mariam Malik**, 2012 Commonwealth Shared Scholar from Pakistan
- Susan Chinangwa Manyetera**, 2013 Commonwealth Scholar from Malawi
- Dr. Glory E. Mbah**, 2011 Commonwealth Scholar from Cameroon
- David Mchembere**, 2014 Commonwealth Scholar from Kenya
- Anna Mohase**, 2013 Commonwealth Distance Learning Scholar from Guyana
- Karen Moore**, 1998 Commonwealth Scholar from Canada
- Dr. Ria Mukherjee**, 2013 Commonwealth Professional Fellow from India
- Muhammad Umar Mukhtar**, 2013 Commonwealth Scholar from Pakistan
- Angela Mumo**, 2014 Commonwealth Distance Learning Scholar from Kenya
- Eng. Mary Mwogeza**, 2008 Commonwealth Scholar from Uganda
- Dr. Wilma S. Nchito**, 2009 Commonwealth Distance Learning Scholar from Zambia
- Shephard Ndlovu**, 1997 Commonwealth Scholar from Zimbabwe
- Dr. Mercy Ebere Ndubueze-Ogaraku**, 2017 Commonwealth Academic Fellow from Nigeria
- Siphiwo Ngeni**, 2013 Commonwealth Professional Fellow from South Africa
- Dr. Viola Nilah Nyakato**, 2012 Commonwealth Split-site Scholar from Uganda
- Alex Uchenna Nwoko**, 2015 Commonwealth Shared Scholar from Nigeria
- Anthony Kennedy Nzuki**, 2013 Commonwealth Distance Learning Scholar from Kenya
- Dr. Chidinma C. Obieze**, 2016 Commonwealth Shared Scholar from Nigeria
- Professor Mark J Obwolo**, 1982 Commonwealth Academic Fellow from Uganda
- Onyegecha N. Ofurum**, 2014 Commonwealth Distance Learning Scholar from Nigeria
- Dr. Arnold D. Okoni-Williams**, 2010 Commonwealth Split-site Scholar from Sierra Leone
- Dr. Okot Nicholas**, 2015 Commonwealth Scholar from Uganda
- Professor Victor O. Oladokun**, 2015 Commonwealth Academic Fellow from Nigeria
- Dr. Olugbemi Olukolade**, 2015 Commonwealth Professional Fellow from Nigeria
- Ayomide Oluseye**, 2015 Commonwealth Shared Scholar from Nigeria
- Jacob B. Omajali**, 2011 Commonwealth Scholar from Nigeria
- Peter Opio Ocheng**, 2013 Commonwealth Professional Fellow from Uganda
- Rachael Ngozi Osagie**, 2015 Commonwealth Academic Fellow from Nigeria
- Dr. Francis Otto**, 2013 Commonwealth Scholar from Uganda
- Dr. Rotimi Samuel Owolabi**, 2014 Commonwealth Scholar from Nigeria
- Dr. Blessing Oyedemi**, 2010 Commonwealth Scholar from Nigeria; 2017 Academic Fellow
- Professor Lynne Pepall**, 1976 Commonwealth Scholar from Canada
- Monira Rahman**, 2012 Commonwealth Professional Fellow from Bangladesh
- RM Faizur Rahman**, 2008 Commonwealth Scholar from Bangladesh
- Dr. Agrima Raina**, 2014 Commonwealth Shared Scholar from India
- Dr. Kavita Raja**, 2006 Commonwealth Professional Fellow from India
- Professor Nandini Ramanujam**, 1990 Commonwealth Scholar from India
- Associate Professor Roshan T Ramessur**, 1985 Commonwealth Scholar from Mauritius
- Dr. Bushra Rashid**, 2012 Commonwealth Academic Fellow from Pakistan
- Dr. Himmat Singh Ratnoo**, 1990 Commonwealth Scholar from India
- Associate Professor Louise Ravelli**, 1987 Commonwealth Scholar from Australia
- Dr. S M Shameem Reza**, 2012 Commonwealth Scholar from Bangladesh
- Dr. Amrita Saha**, 2011 Commonwealth Scholar from India
- Farah Naureen Samuel**, 2017 Commonwealth Shared Scholar from Pakistan
- Dr. Shivakumara Swamy Siddaramappa**, 1998 Commonwealth Scholar from India
- Dr. Milika Sobey**, 2000 Commonwealth Scholar from Fiji
- Momodou S W Sowe**, 2010 Commonwealth Distance Learning Scholar from The Gambia
- Andrew Ssemata**, 2010 Commonwealth Shared Scholar from Uganda; 2016 Split-site Scholar
- Leticia Fordiani Taimo**, 2014 Commonwealth Scholar from Mozambique
- Harold Thomas**, 2010 Commonwealth Distance Learning Scholar from Sierra Leone
- Emaediong Emmanuel Uko**, 2015 Commonwealth Scholar from Nigeria
- Hon. Simone Walker-McFarlane**, 2015 Commonwealth Shared Scholar from Jamaica
- James Wasagami**, 2017 Commonwealth Professional Fellow from Uganda

# Statement of income and expenditure

	2019/2020 Actuals		2018/2019 Actuals	
	£000	% (in-year)	£000	% (in-year)
DFID Grant-in-aid programme	26,895	96%	24,820	89%
DFID Grant-in-aid admin	424	2%	1,624	6%
DFE Grant-in-aid programme	415	1%	415	1%
BEIS Grant-in-aid programme	383	1%	1,130	4%
<b>Total Grant-in-aid to CSC</b>	<b>28,117</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>27,989</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>DFID Programme Expenditure</b>				
<b>Scholarships</b>				
PhD research	8,266	32%	9,975	40%
Agency Master's	4,597	18%	4,486	18%
Split-site PhD	1,606	6%	1,195	5%
Shared Scholarships	4,309	17%	4,275	17%
Distance Learning	2,985	12%	2,689	11%
Scholar support	487	2%	0	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>22,250</b>		<b>22,620</b>	
<b>Fellowships</b>				
Medical	51	0%	112	0%
Professional	670	3%	7	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>721</b>		<b>119</b>	
<b>Other Programme Expenditure (DFID)</b>				
Evaluation	286	1%	253	1%
Engagement	1,076	4%	997	4%
Recruitment and Outreach	734	3%	305	1%
Time Limited Programme	265	1%	198	1%
VAT	231	1%	218	1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,592</b>		<b>1,971</b>	
<b>DFID Programme Expenditure</b>	<b>25,563</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>24,710</b>	<b>100%</b>

	2019/2020 Actuals		2018/2019 Actuals	
	£000	% (in-year)	£000	% (in-year)
<b>OGD Programme Expenditure</b>				
DFE Grant-in-aid (PhD research)	313	44%	384	27%
BEIS Grant-in-aid (Postdoc research)	399	56%	1,055	73%
<b>OGD Programme Expenditure (Total)</b>	<b>712</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,439</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>CSC Administrative Expenditure (DFID)</b>				
Commission Costs via ACU	124	29%	101	6%
ACU Management Fees	177	42%	1,154	73%
BC Management Fees	72	17%	69	4%
VAT	50	12%	250	16%
<b>Total</b>	<b>423</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>1,574</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Programme Management Costs</b>				
Programme Management Costs DFID	1,000	81%		0%
Programme Management Costs BEIS	0	0%	48	49%
Programme Management Costs DFE	33	3%	33	34%
VAT	207	17%	17	17%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,240</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>100%</b>
DFID Programme Expenditure	25,563	91%	24,710	89%
OGD Programme Expenditure	712	3%	1,439	5%
CSC Administrative Expenditure (DFID)	423	2%	1,574	6%
Programme Management Costs	1,240	4%	98	0%
<b>Total CSC Expenditure</b>	<b>27,938</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>27,821</b>	<b>100%</b>
Increase in Cash and Cash Equivalents	55		451	
Increase in Trade Payables	124		(283)	
<b>Total</b>	<b>28,117</b>		<b>27,989</b>	

# 2019-2020 Key performance indicators

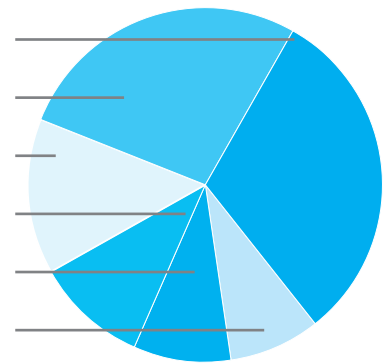
## as agreed in the 2019-2020 Business Plan

The following six key performance indicators were used to measure success against our objectives and priorities:

1. The highest number of FCDO-funded scholarships will be awarded under the 'Science and technology for development' and 'Strengthening health systems and capacity' themes, with all FCDO-funded scholarships awarded under six development-related themes.

### AWARDS TAKEN UP:\*

Science & technology for development	31%
Strengthening health systems & capacity	27%
Access, inclusion & opportunity	14%
Strengthening resilience & response to crises	10%
Strengthening global peace, security & governance	9%
Promoting global prosperity	8%



2. At least 90% of new FCDO-funded awards will be made to **citizens of least developed and lower middle-income countries and fragile states** as recognised by FCDO.

Awards taken up: 96%

3. Specialised advice to be provided to selection committees to ensure that, all other things being equal, **excellent candidates** demonstrating social or economic disadvantage or who are from marginalised or underrepresented communities **receive preference**.
  - 100% of 2019 Scholarship applicants declared that they did not have the private means to undertake their programme of study.
  - In the 2019 Scholarship selection round, 31% of selected Masters, 27% of selected PhD and 8% of selected Split-site applicants were identified as having a disadvantaged background or coming from an underrepresented group.

4. There will be an **aggregate increase in the number** of Commonwealth Split-Site, Master's, Shared, and Distance Learning Scholarships, with a **reduction in the balance of funding** allocated to FCDO-funded Commonwealth PhD Scholarships.

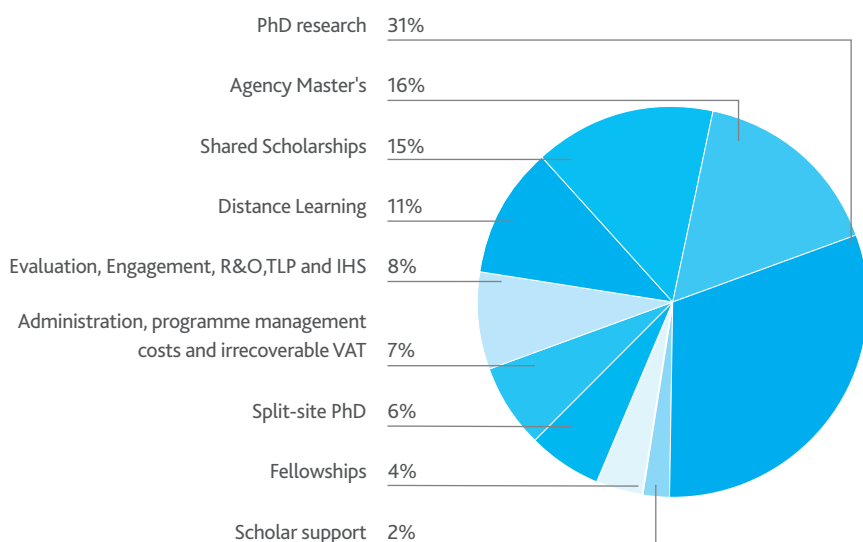
### Awards taken up

- 10% of Scholarship for 2019 were for PhDs (12% and 13% in 2018 and 2017 respectively)
- 8% were for Split site Scholarships (6% and 5% in 2018 and 2017 respectively)
- 20% were for Agency Masters (22% and 18% in 2018 and 2017 respectively)
- 31% were for Shared Scholarships (31% in 2018 and 2017)
- 31% were for Distance Learning Scholarships (29% in 2018 and 33% in 2017)

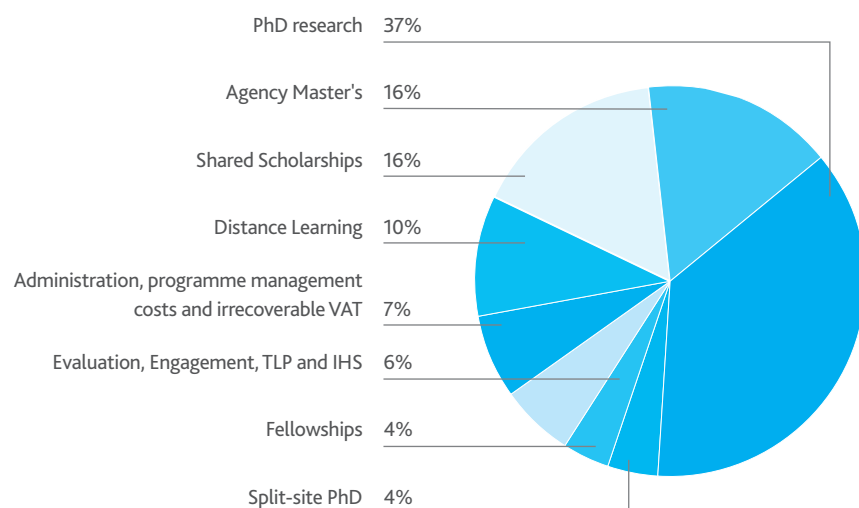
5. The gender balance of candidates selected for a FCDO-funded Scholarship will be at least **45% female and 45% male**.  
46% of candidates selected for a FCDO-funded Scholarship were female
6. At least **£4.5 million** in matching contributions will be generated through partnerships with UK universities.  
£5m was generated through partnerships with UK universities

# Notes

## 2019/2020



## 2018/2019



## Notes

1. These figures were consolidated in DFID's audited Annual Report and Accounts 2019/20.
2. The CSC also engaged independent auditors to inspect the statement that the CSC submitted to DFID. This work found no exceptions to what was expected.
3. This activity is managed by the Commonwealth Scholarship Commission in the United Kingdom.
4. In 2019/2020, funds from DfE and BEIS were channelled through DFID, in line with government practice.
5. The CSC holds no fixed assets.
6. The CSC employs no staff.
- 7a. During 2019/20, a review was undertaken, in line with Government budgetary guidance, of activities supported from DFID's Grant-in-Aid Administration funding, which resulted in some of those activities being identified as appropriate to support from DFID Grant-in-Aid Programme funding. This reclassification led to an in-year adjustment of the DFID Grant-in-Aid Programme and Admin funding totals
- 7b. Administration costs in respect of the DFID Grant-in-aid, before adding VAT, reduced by 3.8% to 1.4% of DFID expenditure in 2019/2020 following a reclassification of some costs to Programme Management in line with Government budgetary guidance.
- 7c. Combined costs of Administration and Programme Management following the reclassification, in respect of the DFID Grant-in-aid before adding VAT, reduced by 0.2% to 5.1% of DFID expenditure in 2019/2020.
8. The contribution of UK Universities to CSC programmes, through maintenance payments and tuition fees, was a further £5.0m. Such partnership contributions increase the number of awards available.
9. Having no VATable outputs, the CSC is not registered for VAT so cannot reclaim VAT on any of its inputs.

### Key:

10. TLP : Time Limited Programmes
11. IHS : Immigration Health Surcharge







Commonwealth Scholarship  
Commission in the UK



COMMONWEALTH  
SCHOLARSHIPS

Woburn House  
20-24 Tavistock Square  
London WC1H 9HF  
United Kingdom  
[www.gov.uk/cscuk](http://www.gov.uk/cscuk)