

Unlocking the Potential of Groundwater for the Poor (UPGro) – DFID Perspective

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Who we are



Department for International Development (DFID) – DFID leads the UK’s effort to end extreme poverty.

Research and Evidence Division – RED is responsible for delivering evidence, innovation and learning in order find the best ways to reduce global poverty, and provide high quality relevant evidence to others.

Climate and Environment Research Team – commissioning and managing research on key questions in development, relating to climate change, energy, environment and water.

What we fund

DFID Funds Research that:

- Fills critical evidence gaps to further development outcomes
- Targets poor and vulnerable groups in developing countries
- High quality, rigorous, peer reviewed
- Open access

- Types of research and innovation:
 - develops new products
 - evaluates best methods of delivery of development and humanitarian assistance
 - Increases understanding of the context to allow for well-informed decision-making



Why groundwater?

Problem: Access to clean reliable and adequate water is essential for development

- Health and well being
- Economic growth

Potential solution: Groundwater

- Drinking water
- Irrigation
- Potential resilience

**Evidence lacking on how to maximise potential
for development**

UPGro – expected impacts



Long term impact: Contribute towards sustainably managed groundwater resources supporting increased water security for poor people in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Expected Outcome: Robust and accessible evidence on physical and socio-economic aspects of long term groundwater usage by the poor.

Expected Outputs

1. Improved groundwater data in priority areas of SSA in terms of quantity, quality, accessibility, unit costs, risk management and long term sustainability.
2. Improved understanding of monitoring and management (including social and economic systems needed to manage groundwater systems sustainability).
3. Better understanding of impacts of longer term trends and response mechanisms which work to support groundwater use in Africa.
4. Improved hydrogeological capacity in Africa coupled with skills in communicating science into policy.

What we expect consortia to deliver



Clear articulation of potential development impact:

- Contribution to overall impact of the UPGro programme
- Clearly defined target beneficiaries and intermediaries – who will ultimately benefit and via who
- Strong understanding of potential pathways to impact and steps to maximise research uptake
- Attention to gender, equality and related issues
- Meaningful partnerships in target countries

How we will monitor and evaluate



Responsibility to deliver value
for taxpayers money –
maximum impact, cost-
effective, transparent



UPGro Monitoring and Evaluating system

- Enhanced M&E system
- Additional requirements to standard RCUK reporting (ROS)
- NERC and Knowledge Broker will both play a role in collating data
- Streamlined system
- Opportunity to showcase research progress

Types of M&E data

UPGro M&E Tool : Log Frame

- Measure progress at multiple levels: Impact, Outcome and Output
- Most information required from consortia will feed into Output level

Output 1: Improved groundwater data in priority areas of SSA in terms of quantity, quality, accessibility, unit costs, risk management and long term sustainability

Output 2: Improved understanding of monitoring and management (including social and economic) systems needed to manage groundwater systems sustainably

Output 3: Better understanding of impacts of longer term trends and response mechanisms which work to support groundwater use in Africa

Output 4: Improved hydrogeological capacity in Africa coupled with skills in communicating science into policy

- Final Log Frame details to be finalised in conjunction with successful consortia
- **Design proposals with this in mind – retain some flexibility to build in collation of data needed**