



OTAGO GLOBAL
HEALTH INSTITUTE
A UNIVERSITY OF OTAGO RESEARCH CENTRE

OGHI SEED GRANT PROGRAMME: DIVISION OF SCIENCES

The Otago Global Health Institute (OGHI) works collaboratively with researchers in all four divisions at the University of Otago, and with under-resourced populations across the globe to conduct research that addresses their most pressing health problems. In line with this focus, we invite funding applications to support eligible research initiatives.

In 2021, OGHI will invest approximately \$50,000 to stimulate one to two collaborative research initiatives in global health proposed by principal investigators from the Division of Sciences. The PVC Sciences and the Associate Deans International and Pacific, Sciences Division and OGHI believe that there is huge untapped potential to solve global health problems within the Sciences research community. Projects could be anything from understanding how a change in the marine biosphere might impact the food chain, to rethinking off-the-grid energy solutions, to improving vaccine cold chains, to a nutritional breakthrough, to creating a new diagnostic platform that could be applied in a difficult location, etc.

As part of this funding initiative, researchers from the Division of Sciences are encouraged to engage their HoDs and the PVC Sciences' office to see if their proposal could attract additional partnership funding from their department and/or the PVC's strategic initiative fund. Furthermore, researchers are encouraged to propose a project that could accommodate a PhD student from an under resourced country on a University scholarship, noting that strategic scholarships are available (including specific strategic scholarships for Pacific people). Researchers whose projects propose combining these and other funding sources, and those which are focused on the Pacific region, are strongly encouraged to apply.

Requirements:

- Research teams must be led by researcher based in the Division of Sciences at the University of Otago, and must include partnership with researcher/s in an under-resourced country. Preference will be given to institutions in the Pacific that have close links and agreements with Otago.
- In order to foster interdisciplinary research, applications that include a collaborator from another division at the University of Otago are preferred.
- Applications that are linked to training and development for the under-resourced country (for example, as part of a PhD pathway) are advantageous. A PhD student does not need to have already been identified, nor does a scholarship need to have been secured yet.

- The proposal must show evidence that it will lead to publications and is relevant to the health of the population where the research will be undertaken.
- Applications must show evidence that they will enhance the chances of ongoing collaboration between the Division of Sciences and a partner in an under-resourced country, such as showing what research might follow.
- OGHI funding available per project is \$25,000 to \$50,000, from a pool of \$50,000 in total. Departments may have strategic funding to contribute and applicants should discuss that with their HoDs when preparing the application. Additional funding from the Division may be available through the strategic funding round.
- Successful applicants will be required to provide a final written report at the completion of the project. The report should document efforts and findings of the project to OGHI. Project timelines should be projected at 12 months or less.
- There is a strong preference for projects in the Pacific, followed by Asia, followed by other geographical regions.
- Consideration will need to be given to restrictions in travel etc from the COVID-19 pandemic situation, but we are focused on the quality and strategic nature of the project proposal in the first instance, taking a long term view.
- Deadline for applications: midday 30 November 2020. Outcome of applications will be advised by 15 December 2020. Standard payment process begins with a dispersal of 90% of the approved funding request upon successful execution of the grant agreement; and the final 10% of the grant disbursed upon project completion and successful submission of the Project Final Report.

Enquiries or further information:

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