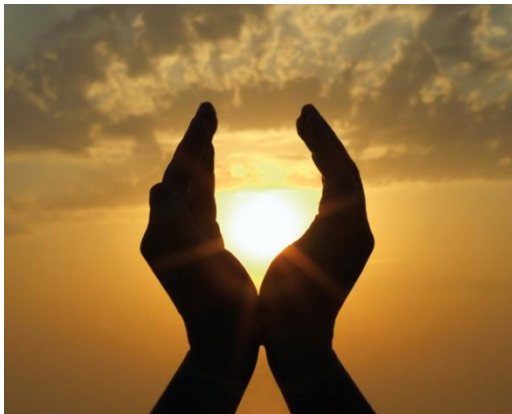


International partnerships and knowledge transfer

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Chief Executive, Economic and Social Research
Council (ESRC)

Research Councils UK (RCUK) International
Champion



Research Councils UK (RCUK)



Arts & Humanities
Research Council



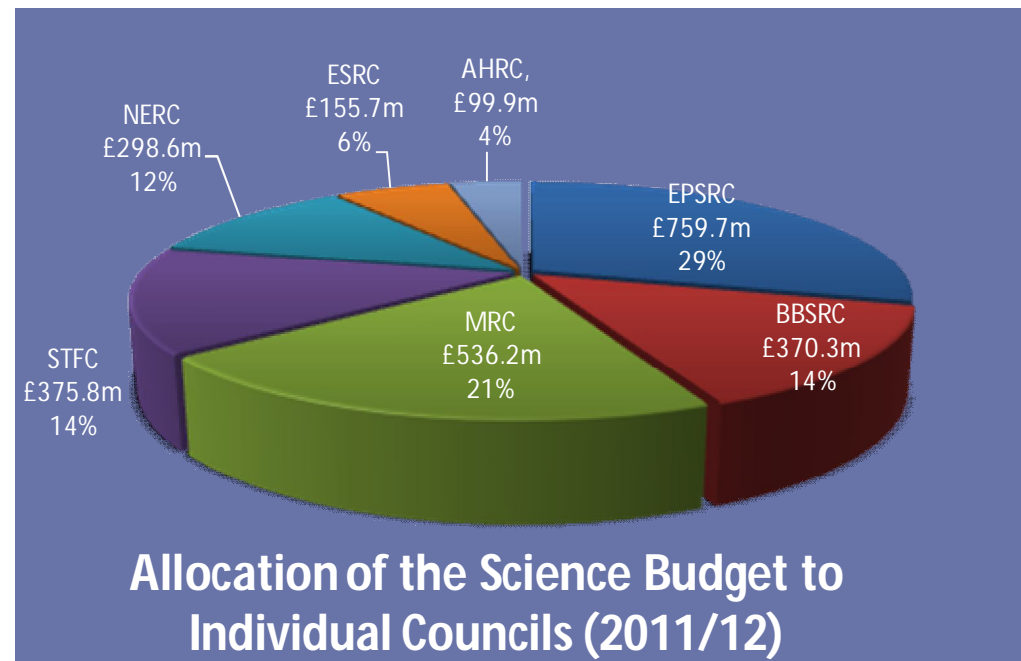
EPSRC

Engineering and Physical Sciences
Research Council



Science & Technology
Facilities Council

E · S · R · C
ECONOMIC
& SOCIAL
RESEARCH
COUNCIL



Total budget:
10/11 £2.55 billion
11/12 £2.49 billion
12/13 £2.57 billion
(Figures 2011/12)

RCUK Framework for the Future



RCUK, working in partnership, cultivates the essential research and skills to provide the bedrock for the UK to have a productive economy, healthy society and contribute to a sustainable world.




Research for our Future report

Key findings:

Continued public investment in research is essential for the success of UK business and industry.

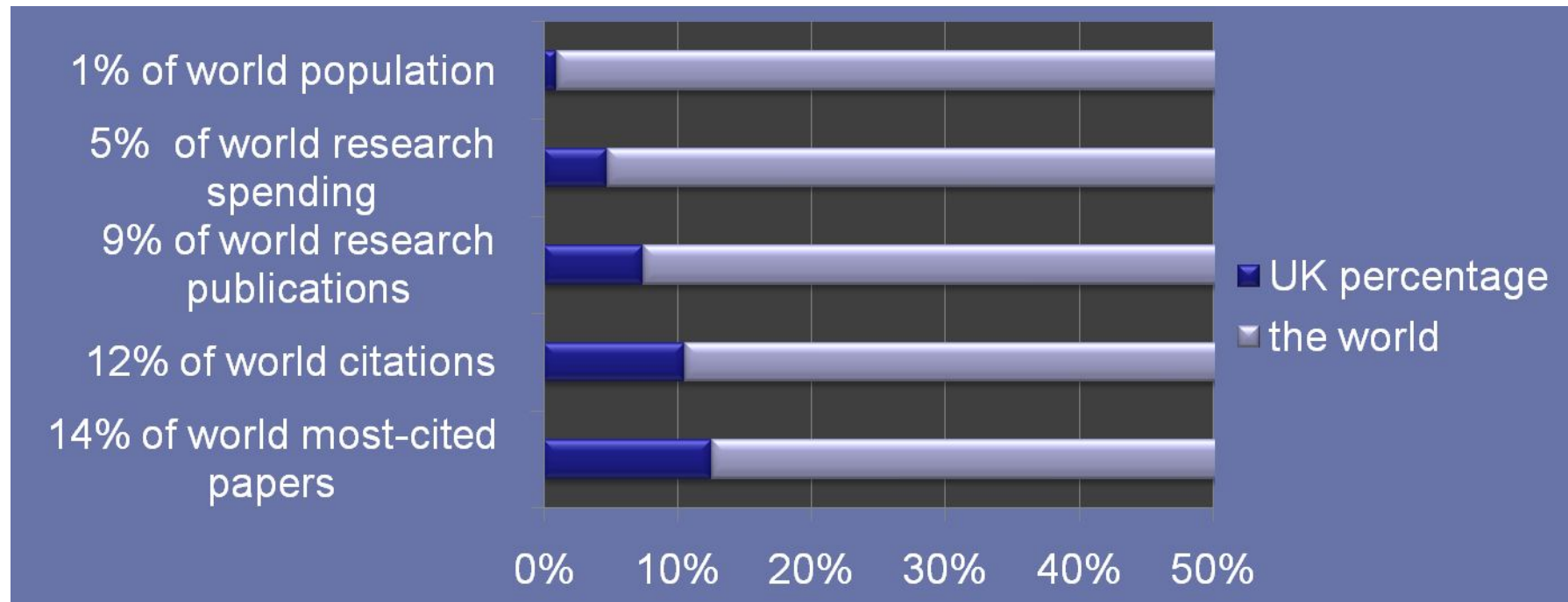
- The greatest long-term productivity advances come through breakthroughs in basic knowledge.
- Publicly funded research raises the productivity of R&D in the private sector.
- Research institutions produce highly trained graduates which are an essential resource for UK companies and foreign companies investing in the UK.
- The high quality of UK research makes the country attractive for inward investment by international business and industry through collaborations.



“UK research remains the most productive and efficient in the G8, continuing to rank as second only in the world to the USA on leading scientific indicators”

International Benchmarking Study of UK Research Performance 2009

International collaboration: UK's success



UK has **broadly-based** strengths:

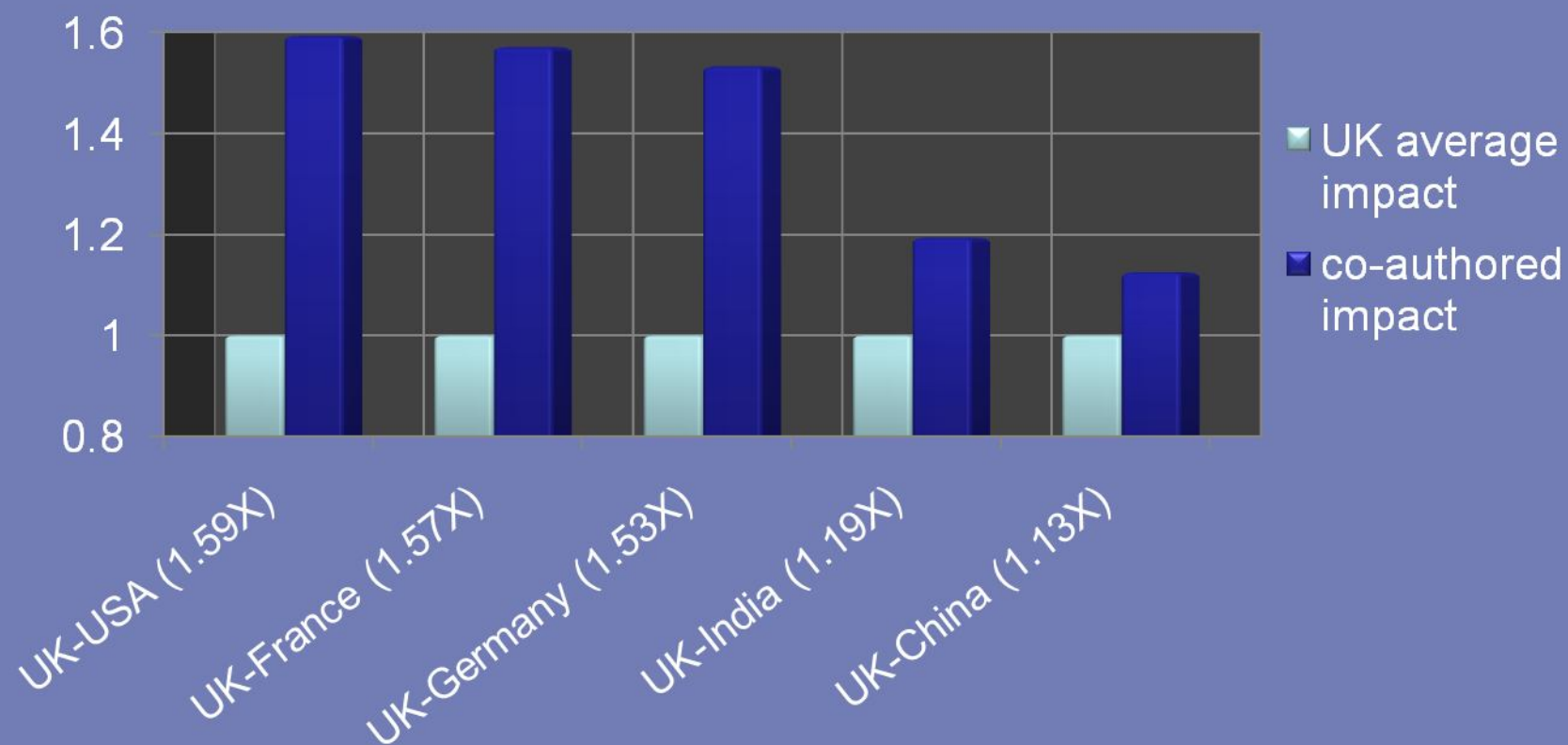
- citation share is world #2 in many areas

UK is **maintaining** its position despite only having the 13th highest R&D spend.

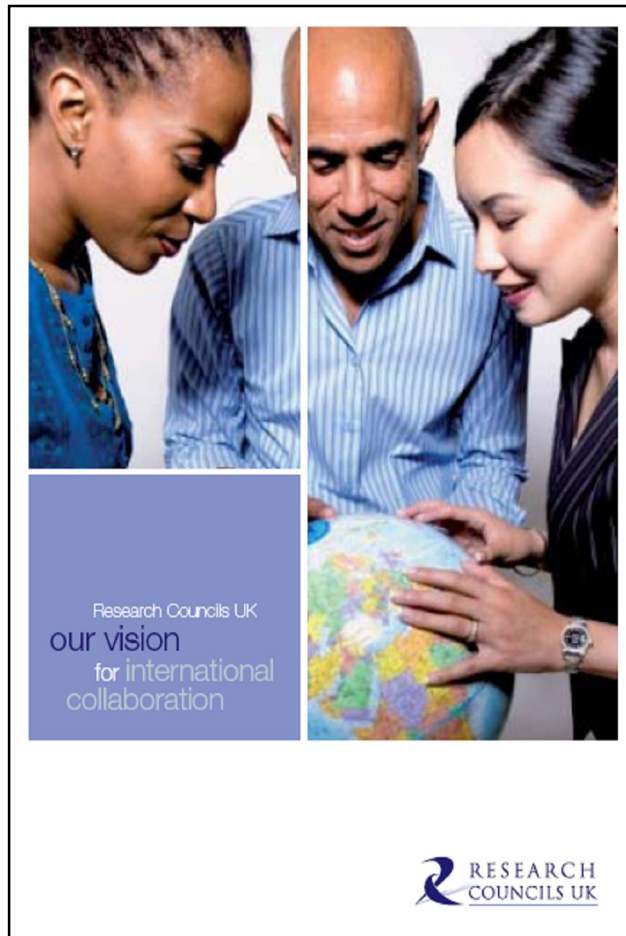
USA is slipping despite world's highest R&D spend

International collaboration: importance

Impact of UK co-authored papers 2003-08



RCUK International Strategy



- Increase RCUK influence in international strategy and policy development - *Influence*
- Promote and facilitate excellent research collaboration - *Excellence*
- Enhance the value and impact of research through international collaboration - *Impact*
- Show RCUK commitment to key global responsibilities - *Responsibility*

Influence

RCUK seeks to develop productive partnerships that lead to international collaborative research.

- Co-operation at national level allows RCUK to present a coherent message to international partners.

- RCUK's overseas teams in China, India and the US build good relationships with overseas research funders and develop the potential for joint activities.



- We work with BIS to ensure that RCUK is a strong voice in Europe and that future Framework Programmes and other major initiatives align with UK priorities.

Global Alliance for Chronic Diseases

The alliance has seven global partners including:

- Medical Research Council, UK
- Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences,
- US National Institutes of Health
- Canadian Institutes of Health Research
- Australian National Medical and Health Research Council



The Alliance seeks to coordinate research activities that will address on a global scale the prevention and treatment of chronic non-communicable diseases (CNCDs).

Excellence

RCUK aims to make it simpler for UK researchers to collaborate with their preferred research partners around the world by:

- Encouraging and facilitating partnerships
- Simplifying collaborative processes
- Opening up access to facilities and data

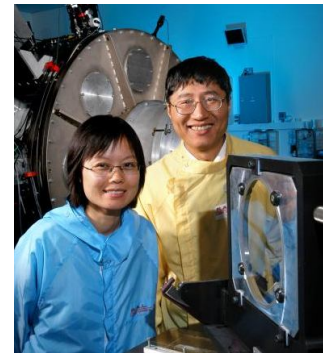
In doing so we promote the UK as a place to undertake research and encourage researchers to spend time overseas.



Encouraging and facilitating partnership

RCUK runs a number of schemes that foster international collaboration including:

- BBSRC Partnering Awards - BBSRC runs a number of Partnering Awards to allow UK researchers to work with colleagues in China, Japan, India and the USA.
- AHRC Library of Congress Scheme
Scholarship scheme – offers doctoral students and early career researchers the chance to spend up to six months carrying out their research in the Library of Congress.



Simplifying collaborative processes

RCUK aims to simplify decision-making to ensure that projects are assessed under a single peer review system when they are funded by more than one organisation.



- Open Research Area – strengthening European cooperation in the field of social sciences.
- RCUK/FAPESP agreement – researchers from the UK and Brazil may apply for funds from both countries.
- G8 HORCS Initiative on Multilateral Funding – supports excellent research on topics of global relevance.

Opening up access

RCUK aims to ensure that researchers have access to a range of state-of the-art national and overseas facilities.

The scale of investment required to build and operate large facilities means that countries must work together and share resources.

- Integrated Ocean Drilling Programme – UK researchers can participate in this international research programme exploring the Earth's history



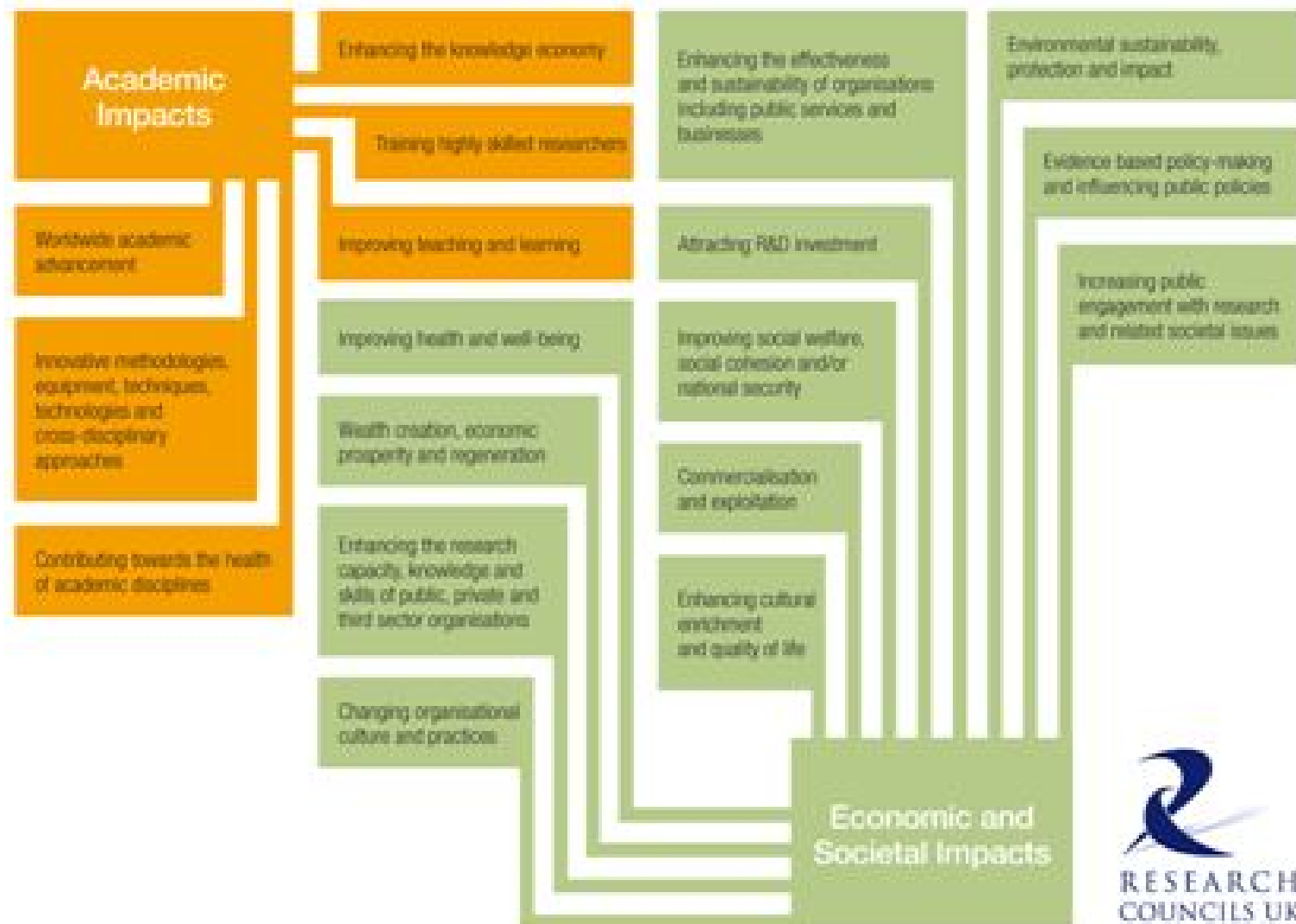
- European Social Survey – provides consistent social and economic data from over 30 countries

Impact

The strength of the UK research base attracts business and industry from around the world to conduct research and development in the UK, and encourages collaborations between these companies and UK academic institutions.



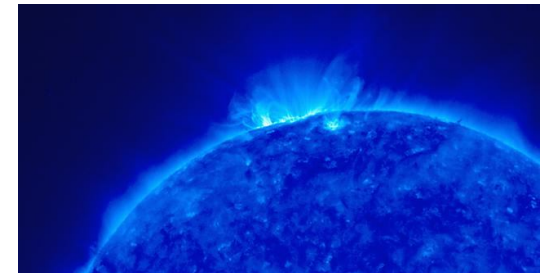
Pathways to impact



Predicting solar storms

STFC's Space Science Department at the Rutherford Appleton Laboratory (RAL) has developed instruments as part of NASA's Solar Terrestrial Relations Observatory (STEREO) mission to predict solar storms.

- Enhanced prediction techniques for solar storms
- With accurate prediction power utilities may divert power and increase safety margins on affected parts of the grid
- Communications and power installations will be better protected



Harwell Oxford

- Joint venture between the UK Atomic Energy Authority, the Science and Technology Facilities Council and Goodman
- Over 4,500 people work in some 150 organisations including key UK Research Councils
- World class scientific facilities and leading edge research
- Open innovation campus structure – businesses brought in at all stages of development



Responsibility

The importance of co-ordinated international effort in changing views and delivering solutions to grand environmental and societal challenges is gaining greater global recognition, and continues to be a part of RCUK activity.

- RCUK priority themes address grand challenges and cut across more than one Research Council e.g. Energy and Living with Environmental Change.
- RCUK works with DFID to support researchers in the developing world, essential for the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.

Improving health care in Africa

Researchers and health care workers from Africa and the UK have collaborated closely to run the Development of Anti-Retroviral Therapy in Africa (DART) clinical trial.

- More people with HIV in Africa could be treated for the same amount of money as is currently spent if lab tests are not routinely used to monitor the effects of ART
- This is of value to low income or resource poor countries that are prioritising ART access over investment in expensive laboratory facilities



Christine Acan walked 60km to get to an HIV clinic a week after giving birth to her baby. Her story demonstrates the difficulties faced by those needing treatment for HIV in sub-Saharan Africa, where 65% of the population live in rural areas.

- 
- *Influence* – RCUK works with a wide range of partners in the private, public and third sectors in the UK and globally.
 - *Excellence* – Working in partnership we increase the scale and scope of our research. We aim to reduce barriers to collaboration, taking a creative and flexible approach.
 - *Impact* – Our vision is for *excellence with impact*, the UK to be as renowned for the impact of its research as it is for its excellence.
 - *Responsibility* – Research has an important role informing and underpinning international policy development.

Thank you!

For further information see the RCUK international portal

The screenshot displays the RCUK International portal. The header features the RCUK logo and the tagline "Excellence with Impact". A navigation menu on the left lists various sections, with "International" currently selected. The main content area is titled "International" and includes a breadcrumb trail "Home > International". It contains a paragraph about the UK's research base and a link to the international portal. Below this are four colored boxes: "International Strategy" (orange), "International Activities" (yellow), "International Funding Opportunities" (red), and "Overseas Offices" (blue). Each box has a brief description and a small image. On the right side, there is a search bar, a list of "Research Council International pages" (AHRC, BBSRC, EPSRC, ESRC, MRC, NERC, STFC), and a list of "Overseas Offices" (RCUK Office in India, RCUK Office in the US, UK Research Office (UKRO)).

RESEARCH COUNCILS UK Excellence with Impact

Home > International

International

The UK is among the world's top research nations, but its research base can only thrive if it engages with the best minds, organisations and facilities wherever they are placed in the world. A thriving research base is essential to maintain competitiveness and to bring benefit to the society and economy of the UK.

This international portal provides an introduction to RCUK's international activities which are linked to individual Research Council websites to enable you to find further information on relevant topics.

International Strategy
Find out more about RCUK's international strategy

International Activities
Find out what activities the Research Councils are involved in around the world

International Funding Opportunities
Find out more about the funding opportunities offered by the Research Councils

Overseas Offices
Find out more about our Overseas Offices

Search:
This website
All Research Councils

Research Council International pages

- AHRC international pages
- BBSRC international pages
- EPSRC international pages
- ESRC international pages
- MRC international pages
- NERC international pages
- STFC international pages

Overseas Offices

- RCUK Office in India
- RCUK Office in the US
- UK Research Office (UKRO)