



# HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION

H-9, ISLAMABAD-PAKISTAN

**R&D Division**

No. R&D/GCF/01/2020/284

Date: 20<sup>th</sup> January, 2020

## **NOTIFICATION**

The Grand Challenge Fund (GCF) has been launched by HEC to promote research excellence in strategic sectors of the economy, and will provide funds to selected institutions based upon a competitive, peer-reviewed evaluation of proposals. The following criteria has been devised to determine research-intensive universities eligible for being the lead Principal Investigator Organization for Grand Challenge Fund (GCF) under the call for proposals 2020:

### **1. Eligibility Criteria for Research Intensive University**

- a. University should be more than 10 years old

### **2. Classification Criteria for Research Intensive University**

- a. Number of Research Papers published in Web of Science Journals over 2015-19 normalized by the total number of faculty in the University
- b. Volume of Competitive research grants awarded by HEC over 2015-19 normalized by the number of Ph.D. faculty in the University

A consortia of faculty members from 3-4 universities will perform the research agenda. The Lead Principal Investigator(s) from the research-intensive universities will be eligible to apply as PIs for the grant under the GCF call for 2020 and PIs from other universities (that are not considered as research intensive universities) may participate in the consortia with the Lead Principle Investigator.

List of top 32 universities selected as research-intensive universities for GCF-2020 based on the above-mentioned criteria is enclosed vide Annex-A.

This issues with the approval of the Competent Authority.

(Dr. Zain-ul-Abdin)

Director General (R&D)

## **Distribution**

1. Vice Chancellor/Rector - All Public/Private Sector Universities of Pakistan
2. E.S. to Chairman HEC
3. E.S. to ED HEC

**Annex- A**

**LIST OF TOP 32 RESEARCH INTENSIVE UNIVERSITIES SELECTED AS LEAD PIO FOR  
GRAND CHALLENGE FUND (GCF)-2020**

<b>SNO</b>	<b>UNIVERSITY NAME</b>
1.	Aga Khan University, Karachi
2.	Air University, Islamabad
3.	Bahauddin Zakariya University
4.	COMSATS University, Islamabad
5.	Dow University of Health Sciences, Karachi
6.	Ghulam Ishaq Khan Institute of Engineering Sciences & Technology, Swabi
7.	Government College University, Faisalabad
8.	Government College University, Lahore
9.	Institute of Space Technology, Islamabad
10.	International Islamic University, Islamabad
11.	Islamia University, Bahawalpur
12.	Khyber Medical University, Peshawar
13.	Khyber Pakhtunkhwa Agricultural University, Peshawar
14.	Lahore University of Management Sciences, Lahore
15.	Mehran University of Engineering & Technology, Jamshoro
16.	National Textile University, Faisalabad
17.	National University of Sciences & Technology, Islamabad
18.	NED University of Engineering & Technology, Karachi
19.	Pakistan Institute of Engineering & Applied Sciences, Islamabad
20.	Pir Mehr Ali Shah Arid Agriculture University, Rawalpindi
21.	Quaid-i-Azam University, Islamabad
22.	University of Agriculture, Faisalabad
23.	University of Balochistan, Quetta
24.	University of Engineering & Technology, Lahore
25.	University of Engineering & Technology, Peshawar
26.	University of Engineering & Technology, Taxila
27.	University of Health Sciences, Lahore
28.	University of Karachi, Karachi
29.	University of Peshawar, Peshawar
30.	University of Sargodha, Sargodha
31.	University of the Punjab, Lahore
32.	University of Veterinary and Animal Sciences, Lahore