

CAPACITY IN BUILDING THE TRADE Hub

Research capacity is the ability to do, manage, share, and apply research. It is important that the most robust evidence possible is produced by researchers to inform policy and practice. Likewise, stakeholder groups must be able to engage fully with research recommendations; having sufficient research capacity is therefore vital for evidence-based sustainable trade and policymaking. As such, research capacity building is a central tenant of the work of the TRADE Hub.

To ensure we captured the research capacity training needs across the TRADE Hub we have:

- Identified TRADE Hub research capacity building requirements through a Capacity Building Needs Assessment
- Planned and prioritised training and capacity building activities and resources
- Established feedback and monitoring methods to enable us to review changes in capacity throughout the project

We will ensure that there is a legacy associated with TRADE Hub research capacity building activities by:

- Using a “Train the Trainers” approach, so that trainees have enough understanding to be able to share their new knowledge and skills with others
- Making training materials open access and freely available to all

Our research capacity building activities include:

- Establishing a Publication Mentoring Scheme. This will develop and enhance the capacity of TRADE Hub team members to submit to, and engage with, high-impact international peer-reviewed journals. This will help to ensure that the research conducted by TRADE Hub will reach the widest possible audience
- Training in research methods, tools, software, as well as policy-related and communication skills, such as:
 - » R programming and statistics
 - » Stakeholder identification, mapping and network analysis
 - » Trade policy monitoring and analysis
 - » Engaging with the private sector
- Facilitating networking between collaborators, particularly Early Career Researchers (ECRs), to establish and maintain working relationships
- Supporting international exchanges between researchers from UK and Development Assistance Committee (DAC) institutions

