

# **BSG International Strategy Document**

## 1. Introduction:

The purpose of the BSG International Committee is to deliver the overall mission of the BSG to provide the best care and achieve the best outcomes for patients with gastrointestinal and liver diseases in settings across the world. This strategy document details how the International Committee will act to co-ordinate professionals in the Gastroenterology and Hepatology community in the United Kingdom through defined initiatives to enable both the BSG and its members to achieve this mission.

## 2. Strategic objectives

- To develop strategic partnerships with key organisations in gastroenterology and hepatology organisations globally to promote and embed high-quality, evidence-based practice and drive reciprocal benefits.
- To facilitate exchange of knowledge and partnership through the development a registry of International Projects directly supported by the British Society of Gastroenterology or led by BSG members promoting good practice in the delivery of international projects to low resource countries.
- To develop international fellowship opportunities for BSG members linked to demonstration of a beneficial legacy, working in association with other international societies, in support of educational, research or quality improvement collaborations.
- To provide International Symposia at the BSG Annual Conference, working in association with other international societies, through specific Memorandum of Understanding, to reciprocate expert opinion and education.
- To support members and registered projects, through BSG grants, to deliver high quality educational, service improvement and primary research activity in line with BSG Partnership development strategy and project evaluation requirements.

## 3. Alignment with BSG Strategy

The BSG International strategy will support and work towards the overall vision, mission and values set by the BSG strategy document. The three pillar areas of the BSG strategy namely Leadership, Service improvement & advancing knowledge and Organisational development will be the template for the strategic delivery of International committee.

#### 4. Areas of focus

OBJECTIVE	ACTION POINTS & RESOURCE REQUIREMENTS	DELIVERY DATE	BSG PILLAR	LEGACY
Develop Members Register	Online survey and call to all BSG Members involved in project work in Low Resource settings or collaborative projects with international groups	Jun 2018	Develop organisation, Leadership	Register of projects and contacts
Grant Applications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Review Grant Application process – introduce 2-stage project development</li> <li>ii. Align sponsored projects to concepts of strategic BSG overseas partnerships and levels of project development</li> <li>iii. Develop standardised project evaluation</li> </ul>	<p>Application process Jan 2018</p> <p>Award of grants June 2018</p>	Develop organisation	<p>Guide to BSG International grant application</p> <p>Project evaluation framework</p>
BSG International Symposium	To work with the Indian Gastroenterology Society to finalise a symposium programme for June 2018 BSG Annual meeting	February 2018	Advancing knowledge	Recording of symposium for member access
BSG International Group network	<p>To establish specific work groups within the BSG International Committee to support development in key strategic areas over the next 12 months;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Educational materials &amp; courses to support International visits &amp; faculty development</li> <li>ii. Links to sections of the BSG</li> <li>iii. Scoping of opportunities for collaboration with international groups &amp; organisations – focus on Europe (UEG), India, China &amp; North America</li> <li>iv. Development of communication strategy</li> </ul>	BSG International Group work groups	Develop organisation, Leadership, Advancing Knowledge	<p>Link on website to library of educational resources</p> <p>Register of links to international work through BSG sections</p> <p>Committee report on feasibility, risks and benefits of potential international collaboration and recommendations for future planning and engagement</p>

## 5. Activity plans

### 5.1. BSG International Grants Programme

The BSG International Committee will update the Grant Application process. A two-stage process will ensure that applications are of sufficient quality and merit, are aligned to the overall strategic goals of partnership development and that applicants work in conjunction with allied projects, make use of available educational and research tools and complete BSG International project evaluation.

### 5.2. Partnerships with International Societies & Associations

The BSG International Committee will focus on specific project partnerships, aiming to foster relationships both at organisational, national society and regional or national governmental level to achieve its overall strategic goals. Initial work will concentrate on specific projects to support a staged development process that delivers sustainable and high-quality projects. Examples of BSG International Partnerships include support for Endoscopy and Hepatology services in Malawi (WGO recognised training centre) and for Endoscopy training in Bangladesh in collaboration with the Bangladesh Gastroenterology Society.

### 5.3. Country/Region Partnerships

The BSG International Committee will form operational sub-groups to with expertise in different parts of the world to aid evaluation of received approaches from potential international partners, project proposals and advise on the applicability of BSG educational and research tools to the specific regional context.

### 5.4 International Activity Resources

The BSG International Committee will collate and signpost a range of educational and research tools and resources to aid BSG members planning or undertaking international project work in low resource countries. The Group will collaborate with the BSG Education committee and other stakeholders to align the development of educational tools to its overall strategic aims.

## 6. Benefits for patients

- NHS patients benefit from UK international scholarships bringing back expertise
- International experts improving help improve knowledge of UK clinicians about diseases rarely seen in the UK
- Support for development of new services for patients overseas and building sustainability into these programmes
- QA of programmes ensuring delivery of high quality care and patient educational programmes

## 7. Benefits for the specialty

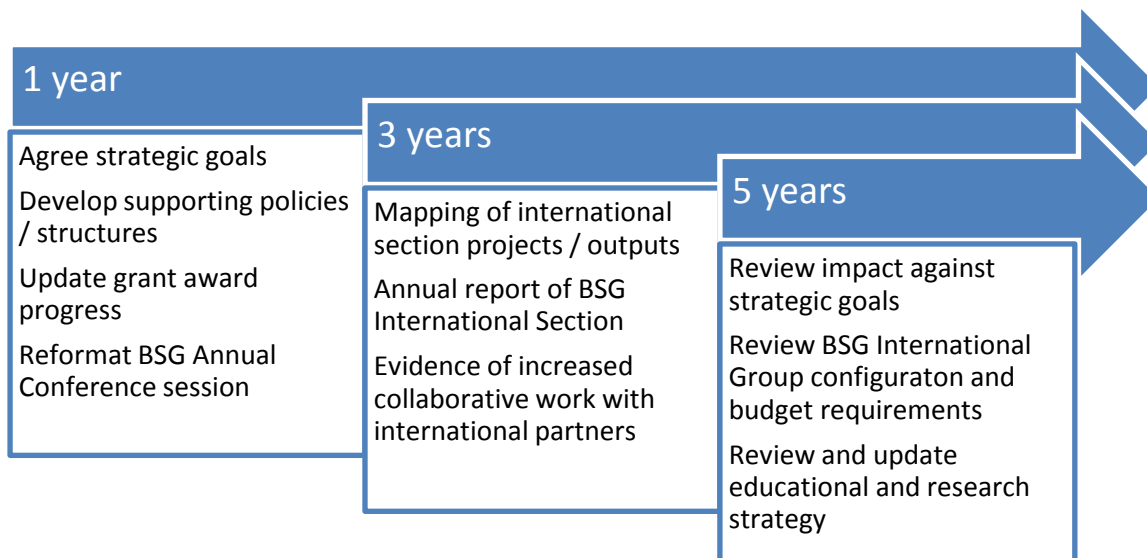
- Sharing of expertise and experience at BSG annual meetings
- Understanding delivery of speciality care in different international settings
- Developing additional educational resources

- Publication of the outcomes of international project work at conferences and in peer-reviewed journals

## 8. Benefits for the BSG

- Registry and QA framework to support International projects
- Mechanisms to liaise with other International Societies
- Formalised system of evaluation of international projects
- Development of educational tools and resource
- Research and development outputs
- Increase out-reach to BSG International membership

## 9. Timeline (1, 3 & 5 year)



**Note:** The BSG International Group evaluation framework will set out the principles of work stream and project evaluation to be included in its Annual Report and presentation of 5-year reviews.

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## 10. Expected outputs/targets

OBJECTIVE	OUTPUT	TIMESCALE
Develop members' register	Register with link on BSG website	1 year
Update grant application process	Grant application guide Evaluation of grant award two-step process	1 year
Develop BSG Partnership projects	Framework for project evaluation Mapping of BSG project work Review of outputs from project work	1 year 3 years 5 years
Collaboration with International Partner Organisations	Pilot collaboration BSG/IGS Joint Symposium	1 year
Develop links to BSG sections	Collated returns to letter to BSG sections	1 year
Develop strategy for response to potential international partners	BSG International Response strategy*	1 year
Blueprint for BSG Annual meeting symposium	Evaluation of 2017 symposium and three-year forward plan	1 year
Develop resource library for members	Links on the BSG website to available educational and research resources	1 year
Produce annual report for BSG council	Annual report	1 year
Strategic review against BSG International Strategic Goals	Strategic review	5 years

*\*Includes applicable BSG 'products' or manpower and capacity to respond, due diligence checks, understanding scale and need for partnerships, resource requirement, development of business plan*

## 11. Budget requirements

The BSG International Section will produce an annual budget submitted with the Annual Report. Areas of expenditure and potential for income generation will be highlighted.

Expenditure	
BSG International Grant Awards	£30K
Recurrent funding to Malawi partnership project	£10K
Support for the BSG International committee (travel, admin, conference calls)	£1K
BSG Annual Meeting symposium	£3K
WGO Subscription	£7K