BRITISH COUNCIL

Going Global Partnerships – Industry Academia Collaborative Grant

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Frequently Asked Questions

2023-24

Section1: About the Call for Application

Call opens: Monday, 22 May 2023
Call closes: Monday, 24 July 2023; 11:59pm UK time

Q: Who are the key funders on both sides?
A: British Council is the only funder for this programme.

Q: From which Indian / UK Institutions / Industry principal applicants can apply?
A: The grant is available to all UK and Indian Higher Education Institutions and Industry applicants who would like to collaborate on a larger theme in areas like (this is an indicative list and not exhaustive) product / process innovation, course / module development, research, creation of knowledge, develop employable workforce, and an opportunity for learners to work on new technologies and challenging problems.

Indian Institutions may be one of the following:	UK Institution must be one of the following:	Industry must be one of the following:
Government or privately funded higher education institute, recognised by state or central governments and its institutions like UGC, AICTE, or any other competent body in India. Indian institutes of eminence, Indian institutes of national importance are encouraged to apply.	Higher Education provider with degree awarding powers. Not-for-profit research institutions, establishment and organisations. Any public or private organisations with a role in the Technical and Vocational Education Training (TVET)/Further Education (FE) system.	For-profit/commercial organisations, including micro, small, medium and large enterprises

Q: What is the upper limit of the award money?
A: Maximum amount of grant is up to £40,000 for a year.

Q: Can Lead or co-applicant apply for more than one application?
A: No, one applicant can submit only one application. However, there can be more than one application from the UK and India institution from different departments with different PIs covering more than one thematic area/department. It is suggested that the consortium applies for grant in new thematic areas. Preference will be given to proposals on new thematic areas other than the ones awarded in the past to the consortium / lead UK University.

Q: Are previous GGP awardees eligible to apply under this call.
A: All Indian and UK institutions and industry is eligible to apply. Preference will be given to proposals on new thematic areas other than the ones awarded in the past to the consortium / lead UK University.

Q: Which supporting documents are required to be submitted along with the online application?
A: Below mentioned documents need to be submitted along with the online application:

- A common letter of Intent signed by the Head of Department confirming a formal collaboration between all participating institutions and industry on a letterhead.
- A statement of support from the Head of Department (or equivalent) of each participating institution and industry that they have read the application and agree to provide consent for submitting the same on a letterhead. Letter from UK Lead Institute should also confirm that the grant will be administered by them.
- All letters mentioned above along with supporting letter from the state (if any) are to be saved as one document in the form of pdf and send to goingglobalindia@in.britishcouncil.org after submitting the online form. The Subject line of the email should be "Supporting Documents" followed by the UK Lead applicant name and UK Lead Institution name.
- Please note the Budget sheet in the form of xls should be part of this mail only.

Q: Do we need to take necessary permissions prior to applying for this grant?
A: Yes, there are some Institutional level documents, and some consortium level documents that we would need. Please read through section called "Additional Supporting Documents" as part of the sample application form and accordingly take approvals before applying under this call.

Q: Are there any themes/ subjects defined under this call?
A: Thematic areas are not defined, and call is open to all subject areas however this need to be mutually agreed with-in the consortium and preferably should be based on market demand. The themes and subjects selected should not be culturally insensitive, controversial or matters related to the internal security of India.

Q: What is duration for the grants?
A: Grant will be disbursed by October 2023. Project activity to be completed by end of September 2024. And final report to be submitted by 31st October 2024.

Q: Can the proposal deal solely with an industry-relevant research project, or should it necessarily have a teaching module/course?
A: The proposal can deal solely with the industry relevant research provided the benefit of the research is both for the academia and the industry.

Section 2- Eligibility

Q. Is the current British Council grant holder from the UK or Indian institution eligible to apply?
A. Yes, they are eligible to apply.

Q: I was awarded last year under the same programme, am I eligible to apply?
A: Any applicant from the departments of Indian & UK Universities and Industry who have been funded this grant last year are not eligible to apply.

Q: How many Lead and Co-applicant can apply?
A: The proposal must be a joint application, with three partner institutions: one UK Institution, one Indian institution and one Industry partner.

Q: Can all Lead or Co-applicants and Industry partner travel as part of this grant?
A: Yes, either of the UK or Indian partners in the consortium can propose travel however this needs to be mutually agreed between them.

Q: How to get started from having no existing collaboration with UK counterpart?
A: Finding the UK partner based on identified thematic area is applicant's responsibility. If you do not have any linkage with UK institutes, you are advised to network with your colleagues and counter parts in your institute or other HEI's. You may also reach out to Universities UK organisation in the UK who engages with 140 UK Universities.

Q: What should be an ideal number of participants (men/women) in a project team?
A: There is no definite number prescribed however proposal should have diversity in decision making and leadership roles. Therefore, it is advised to have gender balance both in leadership and project team roles.

Q: What counts as previous partnership between the partners? For example, does prior research collaboration count as a previous partnership?
A: Yes, it does. All awards given under GGP are counted as previous partnerships.

Q: How many academicians per institute can be part of this proposal?
A: There is no definite prescribed number, this should be judiciously and mutually agreed between the partnering institutions and aligned with the scope of the project.

Q: Will an LGBT participant be considered in GES?
A: British Council supports Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) and hence focus on all genders including LGBT is considered as part of this call.

Section 3- Application Process, Online Application Form and Submissions

Q: Are support letters and permission letters same which are to be uploaded while submitting the application?
A: Yes, supporting letters are to be submitted via mail to our maid id post submission of Online Application form. The mail should have 1 pdf document for all supporting letters on institutions letterhead and another attachment for Budget sheet in xls format.

Q: Can I take digital signatures on support letter and endorsement letter from the head of the institute?
A: Yes, support letters with digital signatures are accepted. Person submitting the proposal should have the approval to use digital signatures.

Q: Is it necessary that only UK Lead applicant can submit application?
A: Yes, UK institution as the lead coordinator must submit the application on behalf of all other co-applicants or partners. British Council will sign the grant agreement with the UK institutions and will receive the Going Global grant funding.

Q: What should be the exchange rate for INR and GBP for the budget sheet plan?
A: Basic exchange rate can be calculated on the rate of 1 GBP = 102 INR

Q: What are the budget heads under which we can plan the project activities?
A: There are five budget categories under which Applicants can plan their activities:
   A.   International Travel and Accommodation
   B.   Professional consultancy Fees and Project activity
   C.   Communication and Promotion
   D.   Staff cost
   E.   Administrative and consumables

Q: Will the grant support hiring personnel of Research Assistant/ Postdoc on both sides?
A: Yes, the requirement for hiring Research Assistant / Postdoc depends upon the scope of project and must be mutually agreed with-in the consortium.

Q: Is professional consultancy fees compulsory?
A: It is not compulsory; it is advisable depending on project requirements.

Q: What is the difference between Staff cost and Professional fee?
A: Professional fees can be charged for hiring consultants or taking services from consultancy services. It may also be charged as one time honorarium. Staff time is more long term and for a continuous support to the project like hiring research docs. PI's time may also be charged as staff time.

Q: Is it mandatory to use the travel cost? Or can it be used for activities like local site visit and field work?
A: The Budget is to be allocated as per defined budget heads. It is recommended to allocate budget as per the given budget heads funds can be allocated under the "Project Activity" budget head for local site visit or field work.

Q: Is there a flexibility to swap between the 5 budget heads?
A:15% of the budget can be moved with-in the budget heads provided British council approval has been taken over email.

Q: Is there any guidelines on how we split the fund between the three partners?
A: While there is no recommended split between UK and Indian costs, however it is expected that the budget plan will be mutually agreed among all partners and will be shared as part of the application form. Please note, the project spend should meet the requirement of the programme objective.

Q- Who can be contacted for any queries related to filling of the online application form?
A- The Call guidelines and FAQs needs to be referred for Call related queries. In case you face technical issues while filling up the application on the portal or you have any other Call related query, feel free to write to us on our mail id goingglobalIndia@in.britishcouncil.org. We shall revert to you within 24 hours on working days, Monday to Friday.

Section 4- Evaluation and Result

Q: What is the selection procedure?
A: Eligible applications will be assessed against GES (Gender Equality Statement) criteria. All applications which are GES eligible will only move ahead to the Quality Review Check by the Assessment Panel. Assessment panel will consist of nominated qualified panel and the decisions taken by the panel will be final. Please refer to call guidelines for detailed information.

Q: How the applicants will be informed about selection?
A: All applicants will receive emails of being successful. In addition, the results will be publicly declared in form of a list of successful applications on the British Council India website.

Section 5 – Project Implementation

Q: Who will receive the grant and how will this be disbursed amongst all Principal Applicant Institutions?
A: British Council will disburse grant to the UK institution who is the lead applicant. The lead applicant / institution will have the responsibility of managing grant and submitting us full settlement at the end of completion of the activity.
There is no requirement for the split to be of a particular ratio, but it should be mutual and equitably address the goal of the partnership and in agreement with all partners in the consortium or partnership. The agreed split of funds should be clearly mentioned in the financial proposal.

Q: Is it possible to spend part of the budget for buying specialist equipment needed for enhancing learning experience?
A: No, assets like laptops, computers, software, machinery, phones, physical books, equipment, printers, cameras etc. cannot be purchased as part of the grant. Participating universities are expected to provide any such infrastructure that may be required to deliver the course. However, any consumables like stationery, communication expenses are acceptable.

Q: How many percentages of grant under each budget head?
A: Below is the split of grant which can be used under each budget head: For details, please refer call guidelines.

International travel and Accommodation	Maximum 25 per cent of the available budget can be allocated to this category.
Professional Consultation Fees and Project Activity	Maximum 45 percent of the available budget can be allocated to this category.
Communication and Promotion	Maximum 15 percent of the available budget can be allocated to this category.
Staff time and other Delivery Cost.	Maximum 10 percent of the available budget can be allocated to this category.
Administrative cost and consumables	Maximum 5 percent of the available budget can be allocated to this category.