Going Global Partnerships

Exploratory Grant for

UK-Korea

Virtual Academic Collaboration

Call Opens : 20 September 2021

Call Closes : 5 November 2021 (23.59 GMT)

Introduction

[Going Global Partnerships](https://www.britishcouncil.org/education/he-science/going-global-partnerships) builds stronger, more inclusive, internationally connected higher education and TVET systems which support economic and social growth.

Through this British Council programme, you can connect, collaborate and innovate with universities, colleges, education policy makers and other partners in the UK and around the world.

The overall expected outcomes of the programme include:

* **Enabling research:** supporting research, knowledge, and innovation collaboration to address local and global challenges and promote inclusive growth
* **Internationalising higher education and TVET institutions:** creating an enabling environment while supporting institutions and individuals to benefit from internationalisation
* **Strengthening higher education and TVET systems:** improving the quality and efficiency of institutions and systems
* **Enhancing student outcomes:** improving the qualities of global graduates (e.g., soft skills, employability, community outcomes).

Opportunities

Going Global Partnerships offers you vital international opportunities - the chance to build relationships, to share ideas and good practice, to access grant funding for collaborative partnerships and more.

You can see current and upcoming Going Global Partnerships opportunities on our website: <https://www.britishcouncil.org/education/he-science/going-global-partnerships/connect-collaborate>. We have many opportunities being launched at this time, so please check this page regularly.

This document refers to the following opportunity: [Exploratory Grant for UK-Korea Virtual Academic Collaboration]

Data Protection

The British Council will use the information that you provide for the purposes of processing your application, making any awards, monitoring and review of any grants. The legal basis for processing your information is agreement with our terms and conditions of application (contract).

The British Council comply with the General Data Protection Regulations 2016/679 (EU) GDPR). We process and handle personal information according to these regulations. The personal information that you provide on this form will only be used for the processing of your application. The information will be viewed by British Council and those who are part of the decision-making process. Your information will not be used/shared beyond the partners listed above for any other purpose without your specific consent. British Council and reserve the right to publish and share anonymised aggregated information with stakeholders.

Organisation details, where collected, are used for monitoring and evaluation and statistical purposes. Gender information and country of origin, where collected, is used solely for statistical purposes. If we need to contact you, we will do so using the contact details you have provided.

Under UK Data Protection law, you have the right to ask for a copy of the information we hold on you, and the right to ask us to correct any inaccuracies in that information. If you want more information about this, please contact your local British Council office or the Data Protection Team [inforgovernance@britishcouncil.org](mailto:inforgovernance@britishcouncil.org) or see our website: <http://www.britishcouncil.org/privacy-cookies/data-protection>. We will keep your information for a period of seven years after the project.

Application guidelines

Grant Objectives

The grant will fund pilot projects designed and delivered through a partnership between a UK and a Korean higher education institution that enables innovative virtual collaboration to deliver one or more of the following objectives:

* Joint academic programme delivered as the mainstream curriculum in academic year 2022
* Virtual student mobility to achieve internationalisation at home
* Collaborative TNE programme (virtual or blended)
* Formation of research collaboration/consortia

**Grant available**

A funding of up to £12,000\* will be awarded to the most successful proposal. The proposed project should be able to start in January 2022 and can run until 31 December 2022. The result and learning from the project should be able to be ready in a form suitable for sharing and dissemination by no later than March 2022.

(\*The amount of grant may change depending on the nature of the proposal and availability of funding.)

Eligibility Criteria

Application for the grant must meet the following criteria:

* The proposal should be jointly submitted by one Korean institution and one UK institution and should be supported by a senior leader of each institution (Vice Chancellor, Pro-vice chancellor, President, or Vice president)
* The proposal must clearly demonstrate the applicants’ expertise and knowledge of the proposed area of work
* The project proposed should be designed and delivered through equal participation from the UK and Korean applicants
* The successful applicants should be willing to work with the British Council to share the result and learning from their journey with the wider higher education sector in the UK and Korea
* The Korean applicant will be responsible for disbursing the grant for project delivery with UK partner institution unless there is a strong reason not to

Eligible costs

The budget requested in the proposal should cover costs that are essential, appropriate and relevant to the proposed project, ensuring value for money. The proposal should specify how the grant will be spent, along with any direct and indirect institutional contributions expected. Please note that no administration or operational costs will be funded. Budgets may be subject to relevant adjustments before signing of grant agreement.

Please find the list of eligible and ineligible costs in the Appendix. If in doubt, please contact the British Council which costs the grants can and cannot cover.

Assessment criteria

* Project objectives: Proposals must clearly explain what the pilot project aim to achieve and how it will enhance academic collaboration between Korea and the UK in the post-COVID era.
* Approaches/Methodology: Proposals should include innovative approaches or methodologies to ensure effective virtual collaboration
* Feasibility: Project delivery plan must be realistic with major milestones on time and budget
* Value for money: Proposals must achieve the best possible outcomes with the funding and resources available

Payment of the grant

After the results are announced, a Grant Agreement will be signed by the British Council and the successful applicants. Unless stated otherwise, funding from British Council will be administered 100% within 60 days of the signature of the Grant Agreement and all funded applicants must submit a declaration confirming they have received the funds.

The British Council reserve the rights to recover the full payment if the final report and supporting documents are not satisfactory, or the activities have not been delivered as planned.

In cases where underspending is expected by the end of December 2022, requests to utilise the underspent funding should be sent to the British Council before 31 December 2022.

Timeline

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| **Activity** | **Timeline** |
| Call for proposals | 20 September 2021 |
| Deadline for submission of grant proposal | 5 November 2021 |
| Announcement of result | 22 November 2021 |
| Grant Agreement to be signed | By 17 December 2021 |
| Project delivery | 1 January 2022 – 31 December 2022 |
| Submission of report and output | 28 February 2023 |

Implementation

Funded project must be implemented in accordance with the approved proposals, any additional conditions stipulated by the British Council, and the grant agreement signed with the British Council. Any changes to the proposed activities must be agreed with the British Council before going ahead.

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# Digital Platform

The British Council’s Global Information Security Policy has banned Zoom usage in the British Council and for contracted suppliers and grant award holders. The British Council strongly recommends using Microsoft Teams to deliver virtual activities and workshops.

Applicants who want to use other online tools or online platforms, must follow British Council’s safeguarding and security protocols. Please email British Council for the protocols or if you have any questions.

Appendix

**Eligible costs**

* Reasonable production costs (e.g. for the development of materials but not including the staff time relating to such development of materials)
* Consultancy fee (when procure externally and up to 25% of the total project costs)
* Essential equipment for use on the project including consumables, specialist software licences essential for the collaboration, access fees to facilities or services. Equipment must be essential to delivery of the project and cannot be expected to be provided by institutions
* Costs of meetings, training events, workshops, and seminars integral to the proposed project, including virtual events
* Publication costs directly related to the collaboration (e.g. web page development by external providers, if appropriate. We particularly encourage open access publishing.)
* Attendance at conferences or other events in Korea or the UK to present outputs and outcomes of the project
* Travel: Airfares (economy class) and related in-country travel (e.g. train, airport transfer) travel
* Reasonable accommodation and subsistence costs for staff for visits to their partner organisation in the UK or Korea (following the British Council travel rate)
* All of the above activities must be directly related to the development and delivery of the proposed project. Applicants will be asked to complete expenditure information and provide evidence with receipts to British Council for monitoring and auditing purposes.

**Ineligible costs**

* Full economics costs (FECs)
* Participating institutions’ staff costs. The funds are not intended to contribute towards the direct costs of full-time staff time associated with the project
* Promotional activities which are solely concerned with the recruitment of overseas students
* Institutional overheads including administration fees and other indirect costs
* Purchase or rental of standard office equipment (except specialist equipment essential to the research). This includes IT hardware – laptops, personal computers, tablets, smart phones, Mac workstations, computer parts and peripherals, etc. Any standard hardware which would routinely be used will not be funded.
* Office software and office equipment including desks, chairs, filing cabinets, photocopiers, printers, fax machines
* Mobile phone costs including rental or purchase, and monthly phone bills
* Exchange rate costs/loss and other banking related costs
* IP costs, Patents, copyright, licensing or other IP-related costs
* Costs relating to the construction, procurement or rental of physical infrastructure, (e.g. office buildings, laboratory facilities) - It is expected that rooms and facilities essential for the routine operation of collaboration are provided as an in-kind contribution by the participating institutions. These can be detailed as an in-kind contribution in the budget breakdown.
* Entertainment costs such as: gifts; alcohol; restaurant bills or hospitality costs for personnel not directly participating in the project; excessive restaurant costs; excessive taxi fares.
* No profit or fees to be charged during the period of this grant funding