

Going Global Partnerships

**TVET International Skills
Partnerships**

Guidance Notes

Call Open: 22 June 2026

Call Closes: 10 September 2026

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1. About Going Global Partnerships

[Going Global Partnerships](#) builds stronger, more inclusive, internationally connected higher education (HE) and technical and vocational education and training (TVET) systems.

Through international partnerships, system collaborations and opportunities to connect and share, we enable stronger transnational education, more collaborative research, higher quality delivery, enhanced learner outcomes and stronger, internationalised, equitable and inclusive systems and institutions.

We help to strengthen higher education and TVET in five core areas:

- **Enabling research** – supporting research, knowledge and innovation collaborations to address local and global challenges and promote inclusive growth.
- **Internationalising higher education and TVET** – supporting systems, institutions and individuals to benefit from internationalisation, including enabling transnational education and system alignment.
- **Strengthening systems and institutions** – improving the quality and efficiency of higher education and TVET institutions and systems.
- **Enhancing learner outcomes** – addressing the qualities of the global graduate, including soft skills, employability and community outcomes.
- **Increasing equality, diversity and inclusion** – making higher education and TVET more accessible, equitable and accountable.

See open and upcoming Going Global Partnerships opportunities [on our portal](#).

2. Key Information about this Grant Call

2.1. Introduction

British Council International Skills Partnerships bring together organisations in the TVET sector from the UK and overseas to share their knowledge and expertise, and to collaborate on projects that focus on enhancing approaches to skills development internationally.

A key aspect of these collaborations is a focus on mutual sharing and learning. As well as strengthening TVET systems internationally, they bring a host of benefits to UK partners. These include unique professional development opportunities for staff, new knowledge and perspectives to enhance delivery, stronger recognition and international profile, and deeper relationships in key markets to support future collaboration and mobility opportunities.

Our International Skills Partnerships have the potential to contribute to long-term systemic change. By addressing shared challenges, such as climate change, meeting the demands of a rapidly changing world of work, approaches to equality, diversity and inclusion, and building lasting relationships to continue collaborations beyond the project lifecycle, they ensure sustainable impact into the future.

Since 2009, the British Council has delivered [over 200 partnerships](#) linking UK further education colleges to over 40 countries. These partnerships have brought together experienced organisations in the UK skills sector and one or more counterparts in other countries to develop and deliver an agreed project plan that supports national level policy priorities related to skills development and employability, such as embedding core skills development in curricula; improving employer engagement; quality assurance; development of joint curricula; and career guidance programmes.

Partnerships are supported financially by the British Council to deliver projects, typically funded for one year with a view to becoming self-sustaining thereafter.

2.2. Overview of Opportunities

Country	Grant (£)	Sector(s)	Area(s) of focus
Egypt (EGY/2627/01)	25,000	• Accreditation	• Institutional Capacity Strengthening • Systems Strengthening
Egypt (EGY/2627/02)	25,000	• Quality Assurance	• Institutional Capacity Strengthening • Systems Strengthening
Ghana (GHA/2627/01)	30,000	• Advanced Manufacturing-Automotive Engineering	• Employer Engagement • Curriculum Development • Pedagogy and Professional Practice • Systems Strengthening • Workforce Capability and Capacity Building
Malawi (MWI/2627/01)	25,000	• Advanced Manufacturing Agri-Tech/ Clean Energy	• Employer Engagement • Curriculum Development • Pedagogy and Professional Practice • TVET Institutional and Systems Strengthening • Building Capability and Capacity of the Workforce
Morocco (MAR/2627/01) x2	25,000 x2	• Food and Beverages • Professional and Business Services (incl. Events and Sports Management) • Sustainable Tourism (incl. Transports and Logistics)	• Workforce Capability and Capacity Building
Uganda (UGA/2627/01)	30,000	• Advanced Manufacturing-AgriTech	• Employer Engagement • Curriculum Development • Pedagogy and Professional Practice • Systems Strengthening • Workforce Capability and Capacity Building

2.3. Egypt: Strengthening Institutional Capacity of an Accreditation Body (EGY/2627/01)

Value of grant	£25,000
Contact for further information	Dessislava.Stoitcheva@britishcouncil.bg
Partner	Egyptian TVET for Quality Assurance and Accreditation Authority (ETQAAN).
Sector	• Accreditation
Area of focus	• Institutional Capacity Strengthening • Systems Strengthening

Our work in Egypt

The British Council has been present in Egypt since 1938 supporting international collaboration to develop better quality, more inclusive and globally connected education systems. Our TVET work in Egypt supports the government's goal to increase productivity and labour market outcomes through the provision of high-quality technical education. Through the development of partnerships, we work with governments, the private sector and training providers to enhance the relevance, inclusivity, and quality of TVET systems.

The British Council last engaged with the Egyptian TVET system through the Skills for Employability programme which ran until 2017. Implemented across 45 countries, in Egypt, we facilitated over 15 institutional partnerships bringing together TVET colleges, employers, and other training providers in the UK and Egypt to work on collaborative projects which resulted in new curricula, closer links with employers, and increased employment rates for TVET graduates.

Since then, the Egyptian government has put TVET at the heart of its national development agenda. [Egypt's Vision 2030](#) outlines how the development of TVET is key to achieving SDG goals in both education and employment. By developing TVET systems through collaboration with the private sector and civil society, TVET systems will become increasingly efficient, supporting student transitions into employment. The quality of vocational training is also used as a key indicator in assessing the quality of the Egyptian education system, with responsibility lying with the Ministry of Education and Technical Education.

One way in which the Egyptian government is working to support its TVET systems is through quality assurance. Established in 2022, the Egyptian TVET for Quality Assurance and Accreditation Authority (ETQAAN) is the independent body tasked with: developing a national system and framework for quality assurance and accreditation of TVET institutes and programmes; issuing institutional and programme accreditation; promoting a 'competency-based' TVET system; aligning qualifications with a national qualifications framework.

International Skills Partnership Opportunity

To support the Egyptian government's TVET priorities the British Council are pleased to announce an opportunity for a UK-based skills organisation to collaborate with ETQAAN on the development and pilot of a training curriculum to support the accreditation of Egyptian TVET institutions and programmes. The partnership should aim to meet the following objectives:

1. To facilitate knowledge exchange and share examples of UK best practice regarding TVET accreditation and quality assurance processes.
2. To provide technical advisory and capacity strengthening support for the development and pilot of an accreditor training curriculum.

ETQAAN was established with the mandate to provide accreditation and quality assurance for secondary technical and vocational education, higher education Technological Universities, and vocational training centres. It has a requirement to accredit all relevant institutions and programmes within five years of its establishment. This means the accreditation of over 5,000 institutions and 12,000 programmes. Last year, ETQAAN published the [standards](#) by which institutions and programmes will be held to account and are now focusing on the rollout of accreditation. To support this process, ETQAAN are implementing a training programme for internal and external accreditors in order to increase alignment and their capacity to provide quality assurance at scale.

This partnership will focus on supporting ETQAAN to increase its institutional and human capacity, and capability, to consistently, transparently, and effectively accredit and approve TVET institutions and programmes. As ETQAAN prepares to begin large-scale accreditation operations, there is a need to develop the technical competence of staff and ensure standardised interpretation and application of the quality criteria. To achieve this, ETQAAN is preparing to develop and implement a training curriculum to senior level staff/ trainers, with the ambition to deploy the training programme to their wider team once tested and verified.

To support these efforts, this ISP is expected to provide advisory and capacity strengthening support with the aim to share UK best practice regarding accreditation and quality assurance. It is anticipated this will take the form of mentoring, webinars, curriculum development, and reciprocal visits, with applicants encouraged to identify other relevant activities as appropriate. This partnership offers an opportunity for a UK-based partner to provide guidance and advice at a key time for the development of Egypt's TVET system, while also providing the partner with experience working internationally and the opportunity to learn from the Egyptian context.

The British Council teams in the UK and in Egypt will provide ongoing advice and guidance throughout the partnership to help facilitate communication and deliver maximum benefit. We will also share relevant British Council tools and materials to support the project activities.

2.4. Egypt: Quality Assurance and Internal Capacity Strengthening of TVET Providers (EGY/2627/02)

Value of grant	£25,000
Contact for further information	Dessislava.Stoitcheva@britishcouncil.bg
Partner	TVET Provider
Sector	• Quality Assurance
Area of focus	• Institutional Capacity Strengthening • Systems Strengthening

Our work in Egypt

The British Council has been present in Egypt since 1938 supporting international collaboration to develop better quality, more inclusive and globally connected education systems. Our TVET work in Egypt supports the government's goal to increase productivity and labour market outcomes through the provision of high-quality technical education. Through the development of partnerships, we work with governments, the private sector and training providers to enhance the relevance, inclusivity, and quality of TVET systems.

The British Council last engaged with the Egyptian TVET system through the Skills for Employability programme which ran until 2017. Implemented across 45 countries, in Egypt, we facilitated over 15 institutional partnerships bringing together TVET colleges, employers, and other training providers in the UK and Egypt to work on collaborative projects which resulted in new curricula, closer links with employers, and increased employment rates for TVET graduates.

Since then, the Egyptian government has put TVET at the heart of its national development agenda. [Egypt's Vision 2030](#) outlines how the development of TVET is key to achieving SDG goals in both education and employment. By developing TVET systems through collaboration with the private sector and civil society, TVET systems will become increasingly efficient, supporting student transitions into employment. The quality of vocational training is also used a key indicator in assessing the quality of the Egyptian education system, with responsibility lying with the Ministry of Education and Technical Education.

One way in which the Egyptian government is working to support its TVET system is through quality assurance. In 2022, the Egyptian TVET for Quality Assurance and Accreditation Authority (ETQAAN) was established with the aim of accrediting TVET institutions and programmes. In 2025, ETQAAN published the [Accreditation Standards for Technical and Technological Education Institutes and Programmes](#). With these publications, TVET institutes across Egypt now have a guide to ensure that their technological education provision meets national standards.

International Skills Partnership Opportunity

To support the Egyptian government's TVET priorities the British Council are pleased to announce an opportunity for a UK-based skills organisation to collaborate with an Egyptian technical institute to support its quality assurance processes to meet newly published national standards. The partnership should aim to meet the following objectives:

1. To facilitate knowledge exchange and share examples of UK best practice regarding institutional quality assurance processes and alignment with national standards.
2. To provide technical advisory and capacity strengthening support to the institution to develop their internal capability to meet national standards.
3. To support local institutions to achieve the institution and programme accreditation.

Egyptian TVET providers, for the first time, are required to ensure that their programmes and educational outputs meet national standards. While many institutions have strong internal quality assurance mechanisms in place, newer institutions and those with fewer resources may struggle to meet these standards. The ISP offers UK partners the opportunity for mutual knowledge exchange and experience working internationally in a country rapidly increasing the effectiveness of its TVET system.

This partnership is expected to provide advisory and capacity strengthening support with the aim to share UK best practice. It is expected this will take the form of reciprocal study visits between the UK and Egypt, as well mentorship, training and webinars, with applicants encouraged to identify other relevant activities as appropriate. Outputs from the ISP must support the objectives outlined above, but their specific nature, for instance an institutional toolkit, are for partners to propose.

Partners are expected to share knowledge and expertise in areas such as:

1. Monitoring, evaluation and learning processes
2. Data collection and quality assurance mechanisms
3. Alignment with national standards for institutions and programmes

The British Council teams in the UK and in Egypt will provide ongoing advice and guidance throughout the partnership to help facilitate communication and deliver maximum benefit. We will also share relevant British Council tools and materials to support the project activities. The Egyptian partner will be selected by the British Council Egypt in consultation with key TVET stakeholders and confirmed before ISP activities commence.

2.5. Ghana: Strengthening TVET Systems and Building Automotive Engineering Workforce Capability and Capacity (GHA/2627/01)

Value of grant	£30,000
Contact for further information	Louise.Greer@britishcouncil.org
Partner	Ghana's Automotive Sector Skills Body (lead partner), Commission for Technical and Vocational Education Training (CTVET), and Ghana TVET Service, working with specialist technical colleges for automotive engineering
Sector	Advanced Manufacturing- Automotive Engineering
Area of focus	- Employer Engagement - Curriculum Design - Pedagogy and Professional Practice - Systems Strengthening - Workforce Capability and Capacity Building

Our work in Ghana

The British Council has worked in Ghana since 1944, supporting international collaboration to strengthen high-quality, inclusive, and globally connected education systems. Our TVET portfolio aligns with Ghana's industrialisation and youth employment priorities, working with government, industry, and training providers to strengthen workforce capability and ensure skills provision meets labour market needs. In partnership with the Commission for Technical and Vocational Education and Training (CTVET) and the Ghana TVET Service, we support TVET reform through curriculum development, systems strengthening, employer engagement, and the integration of green and future-focused skills.

Since 2023, the Going Global Partnerships programme has connected four UK Further Education colleges with ten Ghanaian public and private TVET institutions. These partnerships have supported curriculum review, capacity development, and knowledge exchange, focusing on entrepreneurship, sustainability, and green skills, while promoting industry-responsive training, innovation, and stronger pathways to employment.

The British Council has also delivered major skills development programmes in Ghana, including the European-funded VET Toolbox II programme (2017–2022). Working in the Northern and North East regions, the programme strengthened agriculture-focused vocational training by supporting six training centres. Achievements included training over 30 instructors in competency-based methodologies, providing workplace learning opportunities for more than 200 learners across 40 commercial farms, developing new curricula, and increasing women's participation in technical fields through tractor mechanisation and agronomy training. A

complementary UK–Ghana skills partnership further strengthened work-based learning, leadership development, women’s participation in STEM, and the use of technology in teaching and learning. In addition, the UK Government-funded I-WORK project (2018–2020) assessed Ghana’s apprenticeship system using the British Council’s Apprenticeship System Benchmarking Tool and informed collaboration with CTNET on the development of a National Apprenticeship Policy.

International Skills Partnership Opportunity

Building on previous International Skills Partnerships and supporting Ghana’s TVET priorities, the British Council invites a UK-based skills organisation to partner with Ghana’s Automotive Sector Skills Body. The partnership will explore how employer engagement, clean energy technologies, and sustainability can inform automotive engineering curriculum design and delivery. It will strengthen industry relevance, support the professional development of teachers and trainers, and equip learners with the technical, green, and employability skills needed in a rapidly evolving automotive sector. The partnership should aim to:

1. Strengthen Industry Engagement and Partnerships

Develop sustainable links between employers, industry leaders, training providers, and sector bodies to ensure TVET reflects current and emerging automotive trends, including clean energy technologies and green skills. Support teacher professional development through industry engagement and knowledge exchange.

2. Develop Industry-Responsive Skills and Curriculum

Co-design and enhance curricula using industry insights to meet workforce needs, while equipping learners with the technical, green, and professional skills required for employment, entrepreneurship, and lifelong learning.

3. Enhance Inclusive, High-Quality Learning

Improve teaching, practical training, and exposure to industry practices and technologies, while promoting equitable access to skills development and employment opportunities for women, young people, and other underrepresented groups.

4. Promote Innovation and Progression Pathways

Facilitate the exchange of good practice between UK and Ghanaian institutions and strengthen pathways into further education, employment, entrepreneurship, and lifelong learning, supporting productivity, sustainability, climate resilience, and sector growth.

British Council teams in the UK and Ghana will provide ongoing guidance throughout the partnership, facilitate collaboration, and share relevant tools, materials, and UK resources to support project delivery.

2.6. Malawi: TVET system strengthening and skills alignment through effective employer engagement (MWI/2627/01)

Value of grant	£25,000
Contact for further information	ellie.utterson@britishcouncil.org
Partner	Ministry of Labour, Skills and Innovation (lead partner), working with relevant TVET institutions and stakeholders
Sector	Advanced Manufacturing – Agri-Tech, Clean Energy
Area of focus	- Employer engagement - Curriculum development - Pedagogy and professional practice - TVET institutional and systems strengthening - Building capability and capacity of the Advanced Manufacturing workforce

Our work in Malawi

The British Council has worked in Malawi since 1974, supporting international collaboration to strengthen the quality, inclusivity and global connectivity of education systems. Our TVET work aligns with the Government of Malawi's ambitions to improve skills development, youth employability and labour market responsiveness. Through partnerships with government, the private sector and training providers, we enhance the relevance and quality of TVET systems while creating opportunities for young people to gain the knowledge, skills, behaviours, qualifications and experience, to progress to higher levels of study and/or employment and to succeed.

Since 2020, we have delivered a range of skills development programmes with national and international partners, including the Ministry of Labour, TEVET Authority, TVET institutions, the European Union, the Shire Valley Transformation Programme (SVTP), the Public-Private Skills Dialogue Forum (PPSDF), the Employers' Consultative Association of Malawi (ECAM) and the National Youth Council.

Key initiatives include:

1. **Zantchito Skills for Jobs**: An EU-funded programme supporting TVET reform, stronger skills system coordination, employer engagement and the development of Centres of Vocational Excellence in agricultural mechanisation, renewable energy, tourism and marine transport.
2. **VET Toolbox (Malawi)**: An EU-funded programme supporting skills development linked to agricultural investment in the Shire Valley through public-private dialogue, occupational

standards, curriculum development and more inclusive, employer-responsive TVET provision.

3. **International Skills Partnership – Green Skills Advisory Panel**: Established Malawi's first Green Skills Advisory Panel, bringing together industry and TVET stakeholders to address emerging green skills needs.
4. **International Skills Partnership, Women in Leadership**: Strengthening women's leadership in TVET through peer learning, capacity building and collaboration between UK and Malawian institutions.

Together, these initiatives demonstrate the British Council's ability to convene stakeholders, broker international partnerships and strengthen TVET skills systems that support national priorities, economic opportunity and sustainable development

International Skills Partnership Opportunity

To support Malawi's TVET priorities, the British Council invites a UK skills organisation to partner with the Ministry of Labour, Skills and Innovation, and relevant TVET stakeholders, to strengthen alignment of education with labour market needs, while strengthening TVET systems, and building workforce capability and capacity in the Advanced Manufacturing sector.

The partnership will aim to:

1. Strengthen alignment between TVET provision and labour market demand through effective employer engagement.
2. Support co-curriculum review, design, and development to ensure industry relevance and responsiveness to labour market demand.
3. Enhance teacher capacity through high-quality continuous professional development that supports dual professional updating.
4. Strengthen TVET systems and institutional capacity.
5. Build capability and capacity within the Advanced Manufacturing workforce.

Using a collaborative, system-level approach, the partnership will strengthen the relevance and quality of skills provision by addressing gaps in curriculum development, industry-relevant teacher training and CPD, TVET systems and institutional capacity, and employer engagement.

Activities may include curriculum review and co-development, teacher training and industry-informed CPD, knowledge exchange between UK and Malawian institutions, and initiatives that strengthen links between training providers and employers. Delivery methods may include workshops, mentoring, study visits, peer learning and other needs-based activities.

The partnership should deliver sustainable impact by strengthening institutional capacity, embedding knowledge and skills within local systems, and fostering long-term UK–Malawi collaboration. British Council teams in the UK and Malawi will provide ongoing guidance throughout the partnership, facilitate collaboration, and share relevant tools, materials, and UK resources to support project delivery.

2.6. Morocco: Building Industry Relevant Skills for Global Event Delivery x2 (MAR/2627/01)

Value of grant	£25,000 x2
Contact for further information	Dessislava.Stoitcheva@britishcouncil.bg
Partner	Moroccan Government partners (incl. Ministry of Skills/ Industry and Trade) & Moroccan TVET institutes
Sector	• Food and Beverages • Professional and Business Services (incl. Events and Sports Management) • Sustainable Tourism (incl. Transports and Logistics)
Area of focus	• Workforce Capability and Capacity Building

Please note two individual £25,000 partnership grants are available for this opportunity.

Our work in Morocco

The British Council has been present in Morocco since 1960 supporting international collaboration to develop better quality, more inclusive and globally connected education systems. Our TVET work in Morocco supports the government's goal of developing a skilled, inclusive, and future-ready workforce that contributes to economic competitiveness, sustainable growth, and employment opportunities for young people. Through the development of partnerships, we work with governments, the private sector and training providers to enhance the relevance, inclusivity, and quality of TVET systems.

Vocational Education and Training is at the core of Morocco's New Development Model set out by the government in 2021. It is a pivotal sector for the country's future, directly impacting its economic growth and positioning in workforce development for Francophone Africa. On top of this Morocco is set to co-host the 2030 FIFA World Cup. This event will put the country front and centre of the global stage, and as such, ensuring the country has the workforce needed to successfully deliver such an event is a priority of the government.

Previous ISPs in Morocco have focussed on sustainable construction and aeronautics. In aeronautics, a partnership with IMA worked to strengthen skills development and industry engagement. In sustainable construction, partnerships worked with OFPPT, IFMBTP, AMEE, IFMEREE and the Ministry of Equipment and Water to promote green building practices, energy efficiency, curriculum development, trainer capacity building and stronger links with employers. As 2030 nears, TVET priorities are shifting from the development of infrastructure through sustainable construction towards the development of a workforce equipped with the tourism and hospitality skills required to host a global event.

International Skills Partnership Opportunity

To sustain and build on achievements from previous ISPs and to continue to support TVET priorities surrounding Morocco's co-hosting of the FIFA World Cup 2030, the British Council are pleased to announce **two opportunities** for a UK-based skills organisation to collaborate with Moroccan TVET stakeholders to provide and share expertise on tourism and hospitality skills and events and sports management.

The partnerships should aim to meet the following objectives:

1. To provide technical support on the identification of skills needs and gaps in order to host the World Cup helping to inform skills development priorities linked to the event and its long-term legacy.
2. To provide technical advisory and capacity strengthening support for the development of a pilot curriculum to address skills gaps.
3. To promote the sharing of UK expertise and good practice in major event preparation, tourism and hospitality skills, and workforce development to support sustainable sector growth beyond 2030.

The partnerships will leverage the UK's diverse skills to provide support to Moroccan TVET stakeholders seeking to support trainers, students and leaders in acquiring the necessary skills to successfully deliver a global event. The Moroccan partners will be selected by the British Council Morocco in consultation with key TVET stakeholders and confirmed before ISP activities commence. The ISPs offer UK partners the opportunity for mutual knowledge exchange regarding preparation for global events in anticipation of future events in the UK.

Partners are expected to provide technical support by sharing UK best practice through activities such as webinars, mentorships and reciprocal visits. Support will focus on scoping skills needs and gaps in order to support the development of a pilot curriculum to help learners acquire priority skills. Here training of trainers (ToT) or other similar activities may be used to support in the implementation of the curriculum, with applicants encouraged to identify other relevant activities as appropriate.

Applicants should demonstrate knowledge and expertise in areas such as: Events and Mega Event Management; Hospitality and Hotel Management; Tourism and Travel Management. As well as in other vocational areas pertinent to the development of a workforce prepared to host a global event. Applicants are encouraged to share their experience in supporting similar events across the UK as part of their application.

The British Council teams in the UK and in Morocco will provide ongoing advice and guidance throughout the partnership to help facilitate communication and deliver maximum benefit. We will also share relevant British Council tools and materials to support the project activities.

2.7. Uganda: Strengthening TVET Systems and Building Agricultural Workforce Capability and Capacity (UGA/2627/01)

Value of grant	£30,000
Contact for further information	Louise.Greer@britishcouncil.org
Partner	Rwentanga Agricultural College, Rwampara Farm Institute, and Kitagata Farm Institute
Sector	Advanced Manufacturing- AgriTech
Area of focus	• Employer Engagement • Curriculum Design • Pedagogy and Professional Practice • Systems Strengthening • Workforce Capability and Capacity Building

Our work in Uganda

The British Council has worked in Uganda since 1947, supporting international collaboration to strengthen the quality, inclusiveness, and global connectivity of education systems. In partnership with the Ministry of Education and Sports (MoES) and the TVET Council Uganda, it has established International Skills Partnerships (ISPs), including collaborations between UK further education colleges and Ugandan TVET institutions focused on the construction sector, employer engagement, and staff capacity development. Building on its work in teacher training, curriculum development, and the National Teachers' Qualification Framework, the British Council aims to expand its TVET portfolio in Uganda in 2026.

This work supports the Government of Uganda's ambition to equip young people and adults with industry-relevant STEM skills, improving employability and access to decent work through high-quality technical and vocational education and training. Aligned with the Education Sector Strategic Plan (ESSP) and National Development Plan (NDP III), it promotes inclusion, innovation, workforce development, and training that responds to labour market needs.

Agriculture is Uganda's largest employer and a key pillar of the country's agro-industrialisation agenda. Government priorities include increasing agricultural financing, expanding agro-industrial infrastructure, improving access to technology, and strengthening value chains to boost productivity and exports. Achieving these ambitions requires accessible, high-quality TVET that equips learners with the knowledge, skills, and behaviours to be work ready, and to progress to further and higher levels of study and/or meaningful employment in the agriculture sector.

The UK has a long history of supporting Uganda's agricultural development through initiatives that promote irrigation, climate resilience, productivity, trade, and market access. However,

continued investment in skills development remains essential. Access to quality education and skills training is critical to modernising agriculture and strengthening supply chains. It enables learners and workers to adopt new technologies, improve efficiency, respond to changing market demands, and drive innovation, contributing to increased productivity, competitiveness, and sustainable economic growth.

International Skills Partnership Opportunity

To build on the achievements of previous International Skills Partnerships and support Uganda's TVET priorities, the British Council invites a UK-based skills organisation to partner with three institutions in Western Uganda, Rwentanga Agricultural College, Rwampara Farm Institute, and Kitagata Farm Institute, to explore how effective employer engagement and the innovative application of technology in agriculture can inform curriculum co-design, planning, and delivery. The partnership will seek to strengthen industry relevance, support the dual professional updating of teachers and trainers, and enhance the learner experience. The partnership should aim to achieve the following objectives:

1. Strengthen Industry Engagement and Education–Industry Partnerships

Build sustainable partnerships between employers, industry leaders, training providers, and sector bodies to ensure TVET remains aligned with current and emerging agricultural trends, including digital technologies, precision agriculture, climate-smart practices, and innovation. Support continuous professional development of teachers through industry engagement and two-way knowledge exchange.

2. Develop Industry-Responsive Skills, Curricula, and Learner Employability

Co-design and continuously improve curricula using industry insights to meet current and future workforce needs, while equipping learners with the technical skills, knowledge, digital competencies, and professional behaviours required for employment, entrepreneurship, and lifelong learning in the agriculture sector.

3. Enhance Inclusive and High-Quality Learning Experiences

Improve teaching, learning, and practical training through greater exposure to industry practices, technologies, and workplace environments, while ensuring equitable access to skills development and employment opportunities for women, young people, and other underrepresented groups.

4. Promote Innovation, Progression Pathways, and Sector Growth

Facilitate the exchange of best practices and innovation between UK and Ugandan institutions, while strengthening progression pathways into further education, employment, entrepreneurship, and lifelong learning to support productivity, sustainability, climate resilience, and long-term growth of Uganda's agricultural economy.

The British Council teams in the UK and in Uganda will provide ongoing advice and guidance throughout the partnership to help facilitate communication and deliver maximum benefit. We will also share relevant British Council tools and materials, and useful UK TVET resources, to support the project activities.

3. Eligibility criteria for Institutions

Applications must fulfil the following criteria to be eligible for funding under this call:

3.1. Lead Institution

Each proposal must have one Lead Institution from the UK. The UK Lead Institution must be one of the following:

- Further education college that is listed on the [List of colleges in the UK](#) (Sources: Education and Skills Funding Agency, and Association of Colleges)
- Independent training provider from the [UK Register of Learning Providers](#)
- Membership organisation with a role in the Technical and Vocational Education Training (TVET)/Further Education (FE) system
- Sector skills organisation
- Awarding body

3.2. Associate Partner(s)

The partnership can include Associate Partners which can be one of the following:

- Employer organisations and industry bodies
- Other education organisations/charities/foundations/membership bodies
- Any other public or private organisations with a role in TVET/Further Education system
- Not-for-profit organisations, including Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs)
- Government organisations
- Civil society organisations (CSOs) and social enterprise organisations
- Universities

For-profit non-education organisations are only eligible to receive funds to cover travel-associated costs. The proposal must clearly define their contribution to achieving call objectives.

If you are in doubt about the eligibility of your organisation, contact skills@britishcouncil.org.

Eligibility checks will be applied to all applications after the grant call closes. Those which are not led by an eligible institution will be rejected during these checks.

4. Funding

The GGP TVET ISP Grants are expected to support 7 Opportunities of between £25,000 and £30,000 in value, for a 15-month period starting from November 2026.

For successful partnerships, funds will be disbursed directly to the Contracting Institution after signing of the Grant Agreement. The Contracting Institution is the Lead Institution in the UK. The Contracting Institution is responsible for all budget management, including grant transfers to overseas partner/s. For an equitable partnership, the Contracting Institution should be able to transfer funding to the partnering institution(s) for activities in a timely way. Implementation will be delayed and the objectives of the collaboration and the overall project impacted if the funds are not shared in time.

The contracting institution will be responsible for submitting a financial report upon completion of the project.

There are some limits on funding allocations:

- For-profit Associate Partners are only eligible to receive funds to cover travel-associated costs. The proposal must clearly define their contribution to achieving call objectives.
- Human resource costs: Staff (i.e. directly employed by the Lead Institutions) costs for personnel working directly on the grant funded project limited to 30% of the grant to be awarded.
- Expertise costs: Limited to 20% of grant to be awarded.
- International travel costs: Limited to 20% of the grant.

Matching funds, which may include contributions in kind, are encouraged but not a requirement.

For some of these Opportunities, there may be additional funding of up to £30,000 available to the successful partnership for new follow-on activities. If this is possible, the partnership will be asked to submit new documentation applying for this additional activity. This new activity will need to build on the partnership's work completed during the first grant cycle.

5. Ethics

It is essential that all legal and professional codes of practice are followed in conducting work supported by this call. Applicants must ensure the proposed activity will be carried out to the highest standards of ethics and research integrity.

In the application form, applicants must clearly articulate how any potential ethical and health and safety issues have been considered and how they will be addressed, ensuring that all necessary ethical approval is in place before the project commences and all risks are minimised.

Please refer to the Research Councils UK 'Policy and Guidelines on Governance of Good Research' (<https://www.ukri.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/UKRI-050321-PolicyGuidelinesGovernanceOfGoodResearchConduct.pdf>) , the Inter Academy Partnership report 'Doing Global Science: A Guide to Responsible Conduct in the Global Research Enterprise' (<http://www.interacademycouncil.net/24026/29429.aspx>) or contact us for further guidance.

6. Safeguarding and protecting adults at risk

The British Council is committed to safeguarding children and adults at risk and to upholding their rights in accordance with all applicable legislation and statutory guidance. As part of that commitment, we require that all staff, and those we work with, including partners and suppliers, operate within our Safeguarding Policy which articulates our approach to protecting children and adults at risk and promoting their wellbeing.

We have robust systems and procedures in place to both prevent incidents (covering, for example, the recruitment of appropriate staff, training and support given so that staff can work safely, and standards regarding the way in which we carry out activities) together with responsive actions necessary to address situations where we become aware that a child or an adult at risk may have been harmed. As part of our policy, all countries have a named Safeguarding Focal Point (SFP) who is supported by a Regional Safeguarding Manager (RSM) and the British Council Safeguarding Team.

For further information please see: <https://www.britishcouncil.org/about-us/how-we-work/policies/safeguarding>

7. Impact on the Environment

The British Council is committed to minimising its environmental impact. For this call, we have developed a set of questions in the application form which will enable us to understand the expected impact of a proposed project on the climate (and environment more broadly). We welcome information from Applicants regarding environmental considerations such as reducing carbon emissions for their projects, minimising waste, or promoting resource efficiency.

Please note, responses to these questions will not form part of the grant assessment criteria and will not be subject to peer review. The British Council collects this information for internal purposes only.

Please contact us via email, skills@britishcouncil.org, if you have any queries about the environmental impact section.

8. Privacy Notice

The British Council and UK partners comply with UK GDPR and the UK Data Protection Act 2018 and data protection laws in other countries that meet internationally accepted standards. The British Council will use the information that you provide for the purposes of processing your application, making any awards and the monitoring & review of any grants. The legal basis for processing your information is agreement with our terms and conditions of application (contract).

We may share all application data with UK partner(s) institution(s) and with overseas partner(s) institution(s), and our funding partner(s) in order to assist with management of the application process. We may share selected non personal data with agencies responsible for monitoring and evaluation of the TVET ISP Grants.

Your information will not be used/shared beyond the partners mentioned above for any other purpose without your specific consent. British Council and its partners 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 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.

9. Application Process and Documentation

All applications should be completed and submitted on the [Good Grants Platform](#). It is possible to download a blank version of the application form to develop your answers before it is submitted.

The deadline for applications is **12:00 GMT on 10 September 2026**. We recommend that you submit at least an hour before to avoid any last-minute technical glitches.

Due to the volume of applications, we receive, any application received after the specified deadline will be considered **ineligible**.

Ensure you have included all of the documentation listed in Section 13. Pre-Submission Checklist, as incomplete applications may be immediately regarded as ineligible. The British Council receives large numbers of applications to its funding calls, and for this reason we cannot facilitate resubmission process should your application be deemed ineligible.

Lead Institutions may submit **up to three applications** to this call and must identify their priority order. While Lead Institutions would ordinarily be expected to receive no more than two grants, the British Council reserves the right to award a third grant in exceptional circumstances.

If you require any access adjustments or have any additional support or learning needs in order to submit the application, please contact us prior to the deadline on skills@britishcouncil.org.

10. Gender and EDI Impact

Applicants are encouraged to ensure equal opportunities in the teams implementing their proposed activity. Applicants may apply for additional funding to cover any specific requirements necessary to ensure full participation, which will be considered on a case-by-case basis and dependent on the funding available.

Please contact us for further information on the British Council's approach. See our Equality Policy here: <https://www.britishcouncil.org/about-us/our-values/equality-diversity-inclusion>

To comply with the International Development (Gender Equality) Act 2014, applications must outline how they have taken meaningful yet proportionate consideration as to how the project will contribute to reducing gender inequalities in the Gender Equality Impact section of the application form.

Applicants should consider the key gender equality issues that are relevant to the proposed project and how it will contribute to addressing these. They should consider what measures will be put in place to ensure equal and meaningful opportunities for women, girls, and minority genders, including project design and team composition as well as activities and outcomes.

British Council reserves the right to reject the application if no consideration has been given to gender equality or if the proposal is assessed to result in a negative impact for gender equality.

Applicants are required to consider the impact their project will have on gender and provide a gender statement. It should not be a re-statement of your Institution's policy; you may refer to the policy but should show how the policy will be implemented in terms of the project.

Below are the project aspects that can be taken into consideration for the gender statement but not limited to:

- Outputs
- Outcomes
- Make-up of the project team; participants, stakeholders and beneficiaries of the project
- Processes followed throughout the project.

The statement is part of the equality, diversity and inclusion (EDI) assessment screening in this call. All applications are checked for an adequate Gender Equality Statement at the eligibility stage.

The following questions should be answered when writing the statement.

- Have measures been put in place to ensure equal and meaningful opportunities for people of different genders to be involved throughout the project? This includes the development of the project, the participants of the research and innovation, and the beneficiaries of the activities.
- The expected impact of the project (benefits and losses) on people of different genders, both throughout the project and beyond.
- The impact on the relations between people of different genders and people of the same gender. For example, changing roles and responsibilities in households, society, economy, politics, power, etc.
- How will any risks and unintended negative consequences on gender equality be avoided or mitigated against, and monitored?
- Are there any relevant outcomes and outputs being measured, with data disaggregated by age and gender (where disclosed)?

Not all questions will be applicable. If a question is not applicable, please articulate the reasons why.

British Council reserve the right to reject the application if no consideration has been given to gender equality or if the proposal is assessed to result in a negative impact for gender equality.

11. Budget

While no budget plan is required to be submitted during the application process, please note the following restrictions on funding allocations. A list of eligible and ineligible costs can be found in Annex 1 – Eligible and ineligible costs.

11.1. Human Resource/Staff Costs

- There is a cap set at 30% of the total grant for staff costs.
- This includes all Contracting and Partnering Institution staff working on the project:
 - Permanent staff are employed by the hosting institution, with a contract that will outlast the project grant and reporting period. These are permanent academic (full time staff members) employed by the institution.

- Project staff are employed on or temporarily assigned to the project, often on fixed term, part time or short contracts, usually with more of their time dedicated to the work related with this project

11.2. Expertise Costs

- Sometimes Grant applicants wish to budget for non-institutional Staff costs (e.g. Consultants, Industry experts, advisors etc.).
- There is a cap set at 20% of the total grant for expertise costs.

11.3. International Travel and Subsistence

- There is a cap set at 20% of the total grant for international travel and subsistence costs.
- See Annex 1 for guidance on eligible costs.

For other potential costs associated with the Grant, see Annex 1 – Eligible and ineligible costs.

12. Selection Process

- All applications received by the deadline will be logged and acknowledged – if you have not received an acknowledgement by the date set out in Section 16. Key Milestones, please check your spam folder. If you have not received any acknowledgement of receipt of application, please contact us with details.
- Applications will be reviewed for completeness – if we do not have everything requested in the Pre-submission Checklist your application may be declared ineligible and not proceed to next stage. We receive large volumes of applications so we may not be able to notify you of this outcome at this stage.
- **Applications will be assessed by a panel of subject experts, on the basis of assessment criteria specified in Section 14. Assessment Criteria.**
- Top ranked applications will be selected and will be notified about their selection for contracting and disbursement of grants.
- Unsuccessful applications will be notified at a later stage. **You can ask for feedback to your application by writing to skills@britishcouncil.org.**

13. Pre-Submission Checklist

Please ensure your application includes the following:

- This application form and supporting documents have been completed in English.

- The Lead Institution has included a supporting letter, on headed paper, signed by the Head of Department or other person with appropriate delegated authority, giving specific commitment to the project. Supporting letters must be in English and not be signed by Lead Applicant(s). As stated in these guidelines, email versions of letters are acceptable.
- Lead Institutions must have the capacity to administer a grant and satisfy British Council requirements to prevent bribery, fraud and professional misconduct. Applicants confirm that they comply with British Council requirements by responding to Pre-submission Confirmation in the application form.
- CV of Lead Applicant.
- When relevant, Associated Partner letters have been uploaded.

14. Assessment Criteria

Criteria	Weight %
Organisational experience & capacity • The applicant has clear ambitions around international collaboration for their institution, specifically around the benefit of institutional partnerships. These are supported by strategy and operational structure. • The applicant has demonstrable expertise in the UK TVET sector, which will be used in the project delivery. • The applicant has a network of partners, employers and others who can add value to the project. • The applicant has successfully delivered international partnerships (in the past 5 years) or demonstrates capacity to delivery international partnerships. • The applicant shows consideration for sustainability within the partnership. • The applicant has given due consideration to equity in the partnership.	40%
Project approach • The applicant's response addresses all areas of focus in the Call Guidance including sectoral expertise and the country landscape. • The proposed project incorporates specific objectives, which are relevant to the Call Guidance and clear effective activities to achieve these objectives. • Benefit to the UK and overseas institutions is well considered.	50%

The proposed approach is realistic and achievable within timelines and budget.	
Finance and Budgets - The applicant has experience and capacity to manage a project budget across multiple partners and dispersing funds internationally or demonstrates a strong approach. - Budget and leadership roles in the proposed partnership will be allocated to reflect an equitable partnership between UK and overseas institutions.	10%
Gender and EDI Impact - The project approach includes measures to ensure equal and meaningful opportunities for women, girls, and minority genders, including project design and team composition as well as activities and outcomes. - The project may include additional Equality, Diversity and Inclusion aspects (e.g. age, disability, race/ethnicity, religion/belief, sexual orientation and socio-economic background).	Assessed as part of initial screening gateway
Environmental Impact, Ethics and Economic Development Relevance - Proposed activities will contribute to the economic development and social welfare of the overseas country. - The application gives due consideration to the impact of the proposed project on the climate and environment and steps to mitigate negative impact. - The application considers how the project will operate to strong ethical standards and responsible conduct. - The proposed project plans against possible issues around ethics and health and safety.	Assessed as part of initial screening gateway
Scoring	
0 - Unacceptable The response is non-compliant with the requirements set out in the tender document and/or no response has been provided.	
3 - Poor The response does not demonstrate that the bidder meets the requirement in one or more areas. This, therefore, is a poor response with significant ambiguity as to whether the bidder	

can meet the requirement due to the failure by the bidder to show that it meets one or more areas of the requirement.

5 - Adequate

Overall, the response demonstrates that the bidder meets all areas of the requirement, but not all of the areas of evidence requested have been provided. This, therefore, is an adequate response, but with some limited ambiguity as to whether the bidder can meet the requirement due to the bidder's failure to provide all the evidence requested.

7 - Good

Overall, the response demonstrates that the bidder meets all areas of the requirement and provides all the areas of evidence requested but contains some trivial omissions in relation to the level of detail requested in terms of either the response or the evidence. This, therefore, is a good response that meets all aspects of the requirement with only a trivial level ambiguity due to the bidder's failure to provide all information at the level of detail requested.

10 - Excellent

Overall, the response demonstrates that the bidder meets all areas of the requirement and provides all the areas of evidence requested in the level of detail requested. This, therefore, is a detailed excellent response that meets all aspects of the requirement leaving no ambiguity as to whether the bidder can meet the requirement.

15. Target outcomes of the British Council's skills work

In assessing your project approach within your application, consideration will be given as to the extent to which the proposed project is likely to deliver against the target outcomes of the British Council's skills work:

- The establishment of an active network of local and global employers, employer representative organisations and other skills stakeholders.
- Improvement of knowledge and understanding of effective approaches to skills development.
- Young people are better prepared for the world of work.
- Understanding and recognition of the benefits of working internationally and how to do this effectively is increased.

- New approaches to skills development are implemented at institution/ organisation level.
- Policy changes and/or new approaches to skills development are implemented at national and/or system level.
- Higher quality skills that meet industry needs are developed.

16. Key Milestones Dates

Milestone	Timelines
Deadline for applications	10 September 2026
Date by which applications are acknowledged	18 September 2026
Results announcement	23 October 2026
Contracts signed	6 November 2026
Period of grant payments	6 November 2026 – 6 February 2028
Inception meeting	Week of 9 th November

All dates may be subject to change if the call receives significantly more applications than expected.

17. Applicant screening

In order to comply with UK government legislation, the British Council may at any point during the application process, carry out searches of relevant third-party screening databases to ensure that neither the applicant institutions nor any of the applicants' employees, partners, directors, shareholders are listed:

- as an individual or entity with whom national or supranational bodies have decreed organisations should not have financial dealings;
- as being wanted by Interpol or any national law enforcement body in connection with crime;
- as being subject to regulatory action by a national or international enforcement body;
- as being subject to export, trade or procurement controls or (in the case of an individual) as being disqualified from being a company director; and/or

- as being a heightened risk individual or organisation, or (in the case of an individual) a politically exposed person.

If the applicant or any other party is listed in a Screening Database for any of the reasons set out above, the British Council will assess the applicant as ineligible to apply for this grant call.

The applicant must provide the British Council with all information reasonably requested by the British Council to complete the screening searches.

Please read the text to this effect on the application form and tick the box to show that you understand this.

17. Granting Process

When a decision has been made on applications the British Council will send out a notification to all successful applicants with a timeline to accept the Grant. This will be followed by sharing of the British Council standard Grant Agreement for signatures. Funds will be disbursed only upon the British Council receiving an acceptably signed copy of the Grant Agreement. It will be expected that the Grantee is able to return a signed copy of agreement within the stipulated timelines given by the British Council, and the funding may be at risk if the stipulated timelines are not adhered to.

British Council will also ask for a copy of the Contracting Institution's most recent Bank Details.

18. British Council contractual requirements

The contracting authority is the British Council which includes any subsidiary companies and other organisations that control or are controlled by the British Council from time to time (see: www.britishcouncil.org/organisation/structure/status).

The Grant Agreement Holder for the partnership will be the Contracting Institution. The successful applicants will be expected to undertake activities in the UK and in the overseas countries listed in these guidelines.

The British Council is subject to the requirements of the UK Freedom of Information Act, ("FOIA"). Please indicate in your application whether FOIA also applies to your organisation, so that we can reflect this in the Grant Agreement should you be successful in your application.

(Terms and Conditions of the Grant Agreement) ("Grant Agreement"). By submitting a response to this call for applications, you are agreeing to be bound by the terms of these guidelines and the Grant Agreement without further negotiation or amendment.

It is essential that all individuals travelling (including the Recipient, the Project Partner and all Sub-Grantees involved in the Project) should have adequate travel and medical insurance for

their participation in reciprocal visits. This insurance is an eligible cost under travel as set out in the grant agreement (Schedule 5).

In the event that you have any concerns or queries in relation to the Grant Agreement, you should submit a clarification request to skills@britishcouncil.org in accordance with the provisions of this call for applications by the application deadline. The British Council reserves the right not to make any changes to the Grant Agreement.

The British Council is under no obligation to consider any clarifications / amendments to the Grant Agreement requested following the application deadline.

19. Monitoring and Reporting

The Contracting Institution is responsible for complying with the requirements of monitoring and reporting as detailed in the Grant Agreement. We require both financial and activity reporting.

Annex 1 – Eligible and ineligible costs

Eligible costs

The following costs are eligible for funding:

- Travel: Travel (economy class) and subsistence costs to the UK/partner country, visa fees, vaccinations, quarantine costs (quarantine costs not exceeding GBP800 per person for 14 days), medical and travel insurance, and roaming charges during travel essential to the project, to the UK and partner country.
- Local travel in the UK and overseas (public transport to and from the airport and for meetings/visits is encouraged where possible).
- Reasonable accommodation and subsistence costs for staff when visiting their partner organisation in the UK or overseas (See Annex 2).
- Reasonable hospitality costs (excluding self-entertaining costs).
- Reasonable production costs (such as for the development of materials but excluding time spent by staff in relation thereto).
- Consultancy fee (for external procurement and up to 20% of the total project costs).
- Essential equipment for use in the project including consumables, specialist software licences essential to the collaboration, access fees for facilities or library services. Equipment must be essential to project delivery and beyond the scope of institutional provision.
- Cost of meetings, training events, workshops, public engagement events, and seminars integral to the proposal. Translation and interpreter fees.
- Publication costs directly related to the collaboration, including web page development by external providers, if appropriate. Open access publication is encouraged.
- Online platform and relevant costs for digital delivery can be included.
- Attendance at conferences or other events in the UK, partner countries, or virtual events to present the outputs and outcomes of the project.
- Monitoring and evaluation costs
- All the foregoing activities must be directly related to the development and delivery of the agreed project. Partners will be asked to provide the British Council with information on expenditure, supported by receipts for monitoring and auditing purposes.

- The cost of staff time for full-time personnel working directly on the project -only the time allocated for the project, plus the costs of temporary personnel and other temporary staff recruited to work solely on the project,
- Exchange rate costs and other banking-related costs.

Ineligible costs

The following costs are ineligible for funding:

- Promotional activities 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, smartphones, Mac workstations, computer parts and peripherals, etc. Any standard hardware routinely used by researchers and academics will not be funded.
- Office software and office equipment including desks, chairs, filing cabinets, photocopiers, printers, and fax machines.
- Mobile phone costs including rental or purchase, and monthly phone bills.
- Exchange rate costs/losses and other banking-related costs.
- IP costs, patent, copyright, licensing, or other IP-related costs.
- Costs relating to the construction, procurement, or rental of physical infrastructure (e.g., office buildings, laboratory facilities). Rooms and facilities essential for routine collaboration are provided as an in-kind contribution by 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, and excessive taxi fares.
- No profit or fees must be charged to the grant.
- British Council Grants can not be converted to any Gift Cards, non-monetary assets, Crypto currencies.

Annex 2 – reasonable costs per country

Country	Accommodation	Lunch	Dinner	Incidental Expense Allowance
Egypt	150.00 GBP	600.00 EGP	950.00 EGP	10 GBP per night
Ghana	In the range of GHS 792.00 GHS 3,164.00, depending on location, using British Council approved hotels	350 GHS	350 GHS	10 GBP per night
Malawi	In the range of MWK 276,603 – 287,210	60,000 MWK	70,000 MWK	10 GBP per night
Morocco	In the range of 100 GBP to 230 GBP depending on location	204.00 MAD	318.50 MAD	10 GBP per night
Uganda	In the range of 75 GBP to 110 GBP using FCDO approved hotels	55,000 UGX	75,000 UGX	10 GBP per night