



# Going Global Partnerships Awards

## Guidance for nominations

### Background

Going Global Partnerships gives universities, colleges and others across the higher and further education and research sectors opportunities to build mutually beneficial international connections. To date, we have funded over 900 international education partnerships between the UK and 50 countries. To celebrate the fifth year of the programme, we are pleased to announce the first edition of the Going Global Partnership Awards, which will showcase impactful, unique and inspirational higher education and TVET partnerships funded through the programme who have made a lasting contribution to the [Sustainable Development Goals](#) (SDGs).

Going Global Partnerships will be recognising exceptional partnerships that have contributed to **one** of the SDGs. This set of 17 global objectives established by the United Nations in 2015 address pressing challenges such as poverty, inequality, climate change, and education. The SDGs aim to create a more sustainable, equitable, and prosperous world by 2030. Going Global Partnerships has funded a wide range of institutional partnerships focusing on key areas such as capacity strengthening, collaborative research projects, developing joint teaching programmes and establishing new transnational education links. These mutually beneficial partnerships help universities and colleges develop and sustain stronger international connections while contributing to the SDGs. Together these funded partnerships have addressed all of the SDGs, with most partnerships contributing towards around four SDGs each. Some popular SDGs are SDG 4 (Quality Education); SDG 9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure), SDG 10 (Reduced Inequalities) and SDG 17 (Partnerships for the Goals). Through the different specialisms of the research and curriculum work within partnerships, all SDGs have been addressed. Research conducted by the Association of Commonwealth Universities and the British Council in January 2022, highlights how

international collaboration is an effective, efficient way to address global challenges and SDGs.

Awards will be presented to five partnerships (four from the higher education sector and one from the TVET sector) on-stage at **Going Global 2025** in London, attended by international policymakers, education leaders and sector stakeholders.

## Eligibility criteria

Am I part of an eligible partnership?

There are four criteria your partnership must satisfy to be considered eligible.

1. It must have been an institutional partnership funded by the British Council's **Going Global Partnerships programme**.
2. The funding, as defined in the contract dates, must have started after 1 April 2021 and concluded by:
  - 31 December 2024 for higher education partnerships, or
  - 31 March 2025 for TVET partnerships.
3. The final report, detailing the project's outputs and outcomes, must have been submitted to the British Council.
4. Any grant underspend must have been returned to the British Council.

If your partnership satisfies these criteria, it can be nominated for an award.

## Nomination criteria

1. Nominations must be made via the Going Global Partnerships Awards online form. No other form of nomination will be accepted.
2. Nominations must be submitted by 23.59 BST on Sunday 8 June 2025. Nominations submitted before that date can be updated/amended, but once the deadline has passed nominations will be locked.
3. Only one nomination per institutional partnership is permitted. Any partner within the partnership can submit the nomination. In the case of multiple nominations from within the same partnership, only the last nomination received will be assessed. We

encourage nominations to be a collaborative effort between partners, to avoid duplicate nominations.

4. Nominations must state all of the partners that were part of the funded partnership.

## Judging criteria

While a partnership may have contributed to multiple SDGs, **only one can be selected in the nomination**, so partnerships should identify the one Goal they can demonstrate the most significant contribution to before nominating. We expect that nominations will be made against all of the 17 SDGs. Selecting any specific SDG will not give an advantage or disadvantage. We encourage each nomination to select the SDG where they have the strongest evidence of their contribution.

The judges will be looking at:

*The partnership's contribution to the selected SDG during and after the funded award from Going Global Partnerships and how this is:*

- **impactful** – *how it made a significant difference to tertiary education and a meaningful contribution to the selected SDG*
- **unique** – *how it brought new and innovative approaches to tackling the challenge of the selected SDG*
- **inspirational** – *how it has the potential to inspire others through transferable practices and impactful stories.*

The evidence can come from any time since the partnership was started to be funded by Going Global Partnerships, so this means it can include evidence after the funding finished.

Winning partnerships will demonstrate their impact on education and meaningful contribution to sustainable development. The Awards will recognise exceptional partnerships.

## Nominations process and guidance

Aside from providing basic information about your partnership, the nomination form asks four main questions:

1. Which Sustainable Development Goal are you basing your nomination on?

2. How did your partnership contribute to your selected Sustainable Development Goal?
3. What impact/outcomes did your partnership achieve and why was it successful?
4. What made your partnership unique and how can it inspire others?

Questions 2, 3 and 4 have a 250-word limit.

## **Selection**

Nominations will be assessed by a panel of experts from across the Going Global Partnerships network.

Feedback on nominations will not be provided.



**Celebrating international collaboration  
in higher education and TVET**