

Innovation For African Universities Programme

Network Partnerships Application Form Guidance

30 June 2021



This document contains the questions and guidance all applicants are required to use to bid for funds under the Innovation for African Universities Programme.

You will find the online application form here

https://britishcouncil2.formstack.com/forms/innovation_for_african_universities_network_partners_application

To apply, please complete the application form online in full and provide any necessary supporting information. Applicants must refer to these application guidelines and the Terms of Reference before submitting a proposal.

Applications, including supporting documents, should be submitted via the online portal by 17.00 (UK British Summer Time) on Friday 30 July. Applications received using this form or after this deadline will not be accepted.

If you require any assistance completing the online form, please e-mail us at:

iau@changeschool.org

We will compile an FAQ document and host it here

<https://www.britishcouncil.org/education/he-science/opportunities/innovation-african-universities>

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Eligibility Criteria

Compliance

1. Proposals must be compliant with funding rules – see page 1 of the budget template.
2. A partnership should at a minimum comprise one UK HEI, one HEI from Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria or South Africa, and one SSA ecosystem player from Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria or South Africa. A partnership can comprise between three and maximum five organisations in total.
3. The partnership should be able to demonstrate appropriate organisational sponsorship of and commitment to the programme, either by MoU or evidence of previous partnership.
4. Universities must be accredited, licensed to operate and based in the locations they are applying from within SSA and UK.

Equity and quotas

1. There will be 20 partnerships selected to take part in the IAU programme. To ensure equity of representation across Ghana, Kenya, Nigeria and South Africa, a minimum of four partnerships will be selected from each country, and a maximum of six partnerships will be selected from any one country.
 - a. British Council is interested in specific themes within this programme. Whilst every partnership is expected to align with the strategic aims of the programme as outlined in the Terms of Reference (ToR), including systemic change, entrepreneurship, and youth employability, at least 35-40% (eight) of the partnerships selected will have an additional focus of Digital Innovation or Climate Innovation

Selection Criteria

Section 1: Partner Details

A. UK Lead HEI

Name(s) of organisation/institution:

Type of organisation (public/private etc):

Lead applicant name:

Position of lead applicant:

Department:

Institution address:

Phone: (No. for lead applicant)

Lead applicant e-mail:

Organisation web address:

Social media accounts (LinkedIn, Twitter, Facebook etc):

I have the approval to submit this application on behalf of my institution [Y/N]

Name of authorising person:

Email of authorising person:

Role of authorising person:

Contact for contracting:

Email of contact for contracting:

B. Sub Saharan Country Partner HEI

Name(s) of organisation/institution:

Type of organisation (public/private etc):

Lead applicant name:

Position of lead applicant:

Department:

Institution address:

Phone: (No. for lead applicant)

Lead applicant e-mail:

Organisation web address:

Social media accounts (LinkedIn, Twitter, Facebook etc):

I have the approval to submit this application on behalf of my institution [Y/N]

Name of authorising person:

Email of authorising person:

Role of authorising person:

C. Sub Saharan Country Partner Ecosystem Organisation

Name(s) of organisation/institution:

Type of organisation (public/private etc):

Lead applicant name:

Position of lead applicant:

Department:

Institution address:

Phone: (No. for lead applicant)

Lead applicant e-mail:

Organisation web address:

Social media accounts (LinkedIn, Twitter, Facebook etc):

I have the approval to submit this application on behalf of my institution [Y/N]

Name of authorising person:

Email of authorising person:

Role of authorising person:

D. Additional Partner Organisation and/or Institution (optional)

Name(s) of organisation/institution:

Type of organisation (public/private etc):

Lead applicant name:



Position of lead applicant:

Department:

Institution address:

Phone: (No. for lead applicant)

Lead applicant e-mail:

Organisation web address:

Social media accounts (LinkedIn, Twitter, Facebook etc):

I have the approval to submit this application on behalf of my institution [Y/N]

Name of authorising person:

Email of authorising person:

Role of authorising person:

E. Additional Partner Organisation and/or Institution (optional)

Name(s) of organisation/institution:

Type of organisation (public/private etc):

Lead applicant name:

Position of lead applicant:

Department:

Institution address:

Phone: (No. for lead applicant)

Lead applicant e-mail:

Organisation web address:

Social media accounts (LinkedIn, Twitter, Facebook etc):

I have the approval to submit this application on behalf of my institution [Y/N]

Name of authorising person:

Email of authorising person:

Role of authorising person:

Section 2: Problem to investigate and its impact on the strategic purpose of the IAU programme

Section 2 is worth 30% of the total marks available.

Phase 1 of the programme will see partners working together across a community of practice to deepen their understanding of the problem they would like to investigate. In this section we would like you to outline your starting point, explaining the problem you would like to address, its importance and impact, and upon what you base that judgement. We would also like to understand what support you would like to receive from others in this community of practice, and how the centre of excellence can help you to deepen the understanding you have.

A. What is the problem you want to address and outcomes to be achieved? (15%) Maximum 3500 characters (500 words)

This section is value proposition canvas based. Points will be awarded for an understanding of the

- Stakeholders affected by this problem and their context
- Jobs they are trying to get done
- Pains they are currently experiencing
- Gains they would like to achieve— both in the short (3-9 month) and longer (more than 1 year) term
- Way solving this problem will contribute to the aims of the IAU programme as a whole

B. Why is it important to solve the problem? (15%) Maximum 2100 characters (300 words)

Points will be awarded for an understanding of

- The costs of not addressing the problem
- The urgency of solving the problem
- Drawing on and citing evidence such as previous interventions or investigations or published work

C. Support needed. Maximum 1400 characters (200 words) (unmarked, but appreciated)

As you know, we will be providing capacitation and facilitation support throughout the period September 2021 – December 2021. Please let us know what topics and types of support you think would best complement those your partnership will bring to the project.

Section 3: Collaboration, learning, dissemination and stakeholder engagement

Section 3 is worth 30% of the total marks available.

The programme will run as a community of practice with at least 60 organisations across 5 countries collaborating to support each other's research in phase 1, and their implementation of projects in phase 2. At a programme level, this is also a learning programme, with the results feeding into British Council strategy and helping other funders understand what works, and what to focus on.

A. Evidence of past collaboration (5%) Maximum 2100 characters (300 words)

Please provide evidence of experience in collaboration of any and all of the partners in this call to co-create and co-deliver capacity building sector specific projects in the last 3 – 5 years.

Examples of the capabilities we are looking for include experience of working in a community of practice, experience in use of digital and new technologies to work internationally and engage stakeholders and/or entrepreneurs.

In relation to collaborative working, points will be awarded for evidence of the following:

- Participation in multi organisation projects
- Successful outcomes and impact
- International collaboration
- Collaboration through digital channels
- In entrepreneurship

B. Ways you can support the community of practice (10%) Maximum 2100 characters (300 words)

How will you share with and support other beneficiary partners and contribute to the Community of Practice? This question is about what you will offer to do, whereas 4C is about the capabilities that you have.

Points will be awarded for proposals of

- Information and knowledge you can share
- Sharing process and structure
- Where your partnership can show leadership
- Where there is a clear purpose to your support in line with the purpose of the IAU

C. Sharing learning from the project (5%) Maximum 1400 characters (200 words)

How will you ensure that learning from the project is shared in your organisation, partners and stakeholders? Consider learning within your organisation, and sharing learning with your own networks, that will happen in addition to the dissemination set out below.

Points will be awarded for proposals with

- A specific focus and process
- Description how it maps into the project plan

D. Dissemination and stakeholder engagement (10%) Maximum 2100 characters (300 words)

The IAU programme is a learning programme. As such, dissemination and stakeholder influence are vital to its success.

How will you support the programme to market its activities and success and disseminate to and influence key stakeholders such as decision makers, funders, Universities and the entrepreneurial ecosystem in the five countries?

Points will be awarded for:

- Outline of offer of marketing support
- Specific per country dissemination
- Specific stakeholder influencing

Section 4: Your partnership

Section 4 is worth 20% of the total marks available.

One of the programme objectives is to showcase and practise the role of partnership and the potential of different partners.

Each partnership in the programme must contain at least three entities, up to a maximum of five. There must be at least one UK HEI, one HEI from Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa or Ghana, and one entrepreneurship ecosystem player from one of those four Sub Saharan countries.

Each partner must have a thought through role to play, contribution to make, and benefit to achieve.

A. Role of each partner (10%) Maximum 2100 characters (300 words)

Outline the roles of each partner in the partnership, and how they will resource that role. The contribution of each partner must be clear and substantive, and include how that contribution will be made, for example through personnel, expertise, time and budget. This section must include entrepreneurship and innovation work from at least 1 partner, e.g. establishing enterprise and innovation hubs in Universities in UK and SSA, successfully supporting start-ups, developing high growth entrepreneurs with spin offs, commercialising of IP, and contributing to entrepreneurship ecosystem strengthening and development.

Points will be awarded for proposals where:

- Different partner roles are clear and substantive
- There is sufficient entrepreneurial contribution
- It is narrated how these roles link to the project plan

B. Benefit to each partner (5%) Maximum 2100 characters (300 words)

Outline the benefit to each partner, linking to the ambitions and needs of each partner. How does this relate to the strategic vision for each of the partners? Evidence that need in a planning document or other institutional strategy or plan. [upload or link]

Points will be awarded for proposals where:

- Partner benefits are clear and substantive
- Benefits are mapped to the strategic vision of the partners and evidenced
-

C. Capabilities each partner can bring (5%) Maximum 2100 characters (300 words)

Outline up to 3 capabilities and support the partners will be able to bring to the community of practice (in addition to the role outlined above).

Points will be awarded for

- The capability contribution
- Demonstrated credibility in that contribution

Section 5: Planning and capability

Section 5 is worth 20% of the total marks available.

A Project plan (5%) [form upload]

Please give an overview of the proposed activities in Phase 1 that will take place between September 2021 and December 2021, and help you understand your problem in more depth. This should include a high level project plan for the research part of the programme Sept-Dec that shows a timeline, resource allocation, and includes the production of an interim report by Dec 15.

Points will be awarded for

- Realistic timelines
- Appropriate resourcing to achieve the aim
- An ambitious yet achievable plan

B. Risk register (5%) [form upload]

Please identify any potential risks that might be expected in implementing the plan and a mitigation plan for them.

Points will be awarded for

- Specific risks identified
- A mitigation plan
- Prioritisation of risks

C. Budget (5%) [form upload]

Please produce an outline budget for the phase 1 investigation, using the attached sheet. Please ensure the budget reflects the plan, is realistic, and highlight where resources are coming from areas outside the grant.

Points will be awarded for

- Being within budget
- Where budget is reflective of the plan
- If insufficient, budget reflects any extra funding needed over the grant and where it will come from
- Breakdown by partner

D. EDI approach (5%) Maximum 1400 characters (200 words)

Please summarise how you will reflect on equal rights, gender inequality, diversity and social inclusion as part of the design of your partnership and project in terms of inputs, focus, outputs

and outcomes. If you have added these elements into the other answers in this form, please summarise here as well to help the assessors.

Points will be awarded for where EDI is considered in

- The implementation team,
- The topic of investigation,
- The process of collaboration,
- The support requested.