

Going Global Partnerships

Guidance Notes

International Skills Partnership

Mauritius

Call is open: 5 January – 11 February 2026

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](#).

Opportunities are being launched continually, so please check this page regularly.

International Skills Partnership opportunity in Mauritius

Value of grant	£19,000
Deadline for applications	11 February 2026
Contact for further information	skills@britishcouncil.org

Introduction

The British Council International Skills Partnerships (ISPs) bring together organisations in the TVET sector from the UK and partner countries 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.

International Skills Partnerships also 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, British Council, has delivered over 200 partnership projects 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 soft 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.

Overview of the partnership opportunity

Mauritius has embarked on an ambitious transition towards a circular economy, recognising the potential to reduce resource dependency, create green jobs, and enhance climate resilience.

The national [Circular Economy Roadmap](#) sets out a clear vision for 2033, and places education at the heart of this transformation. As a member of the Circular Economy Steering Group, the British Council is committed to supporting the Government of Mauritius in achieving this goal.

We are now seeking a UK-based skills organisation or consortium to partner on an innovative pilot project aimed at embedding circular economy education within the TVET system in Mauritius.

The initiative responds directly to the roadmap's Key Project KP65: *Mandatory circular economy education in TVET courses* and will focus on the Mobility and Logistics sector, in line with action P40: *Devise efficient waste management schemes for end-of-life vehicles (ELVs), waste batteries and waste tyres*.

Project Objectives

The partnership will:

- Pilot localised circular economy modules that can be embedded in existing TVET courses in Mobility and Logistics sector. Partners will jointly select the course/training programme in which to pilot the new modules.
- Deliver a Train-the-Trainer (ToT) programme to a cohort of master trainers from the partner college(s)

Role scope:

The selected UK partner will:

- Lead the development and localisation of circular economy modules to be embedded into technical vocational training courses in the mobility and logistics sector
- Delivery of a train the trainer activity for TVET staff in the partner institution(s)
- Provide advice and guidance on quality assurance and assessment

In Mauritius, the partnership will be led by the [Mauritius Institute of Training and Development \(MITD\)](#), with input and support where required from colleagues in the Circular Economy Steering Committee.

Funding and Duration

- **Grant amount:** Up to **£19,000** to support partnership activities.
- **Eligible costs:** Reciprocal visits between the UK and Mauritius, staff time (up to 30% of the grant), development of tools and resources, and delivery of agreed activities.
- **Project duration:** **12 months**, commencing **March 2026**.

Eligibility criteria for Institutions

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

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Each proposal must have one Lead institution from the UK

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
- Membership organisation with a role in the Technical and Vocational Education Training (TVET)/Further Education (FE) system
- Sector skills organisation

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- Awarding body
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The partnership can include Associated Partners in their proposals who 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 the TVET/Further Education system
- Not-for-profit organisations, including Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs)
- Government organisations
- Civil society organisations (CSOs) and social enterprise organisations

For-profit non-education organisations are not eligible to receive any grant funds, except to cover travel-associated costs.

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 and those which are not led by an eligible institution, rejected.

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. This list is included in the Call Guidance document.

- 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.

Funding

Funds will be transferred directly to the Contracting Institution from the UK, who will be responsible for submitting a financial report upon completion of the project.

For an equitable partnership, the Contracting Institution should be able to timely transfer funding to the partnering institution(s) from overseas for activities which support the objectives of the collaboration and the overall project, allowing activities implementation to be implemented without delay.

For-profit non-education Associated Partners are only eligible to receive funds to cover travel-associated costs.

Matching funds are encouraged but not a requirement.

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.

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>

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).

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.

Application Process and Documentation

Applications should be submitted online via the Going Global Partnerships Grants Portal

<https://goingglobalpartnerships.grantplatform.com/>

The deadline for applications is 23:59 on 11th February 2026

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

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 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.

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 criterion in this call. 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, you will need to 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.

Assessment Criteria

Criteria	Weight %
Background and Relevant Experience	35
Project Approach	40

Experience of Project Budget and Financial Management	10
Gender and Equality Statement	15

Key Milestones

Milestone	Date
Deadline for applications	11 February 2026
Results announcement	20 February 2026
Contracts signed	20 March 2026
Delivery period	20 March 2026 – 20 March 2027

All dates may be subject to change.

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 grantcall.

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.

Please consider flexible and technological solutions to progress activity for planned work where feasible.

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 4).
- 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.

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 (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. The maximum number of staff travelling on any visit covered by the grant is four, guided by the cost of travel when booking.
- 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
- Staff costs for personnel working directly on the grant-funded project limited to 30% of the grant to be awarded.
- 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).
- 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.
- Any other costs deriving directly from the requirements of the Agreement shall be negotiated with the British Council. These shall not include purchase of equipment. The purchase of software might be eligible only when approved in advance by the British Council. This shall depend on the rationale and clear written justification showing that it is essential to carry out the Project.
- 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.

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.