Next Generation Albania

Request for Proposal

*Please note that this is a summarised version of the Request for Proposals (RfP). To access the full version and supporting document, please go to the ‘how to apply’ section.*

**Background**Next Generation is a research programme that gathers data to explore the needs, potential and aspirations of young people globally. The overall aim of Next Generation is defined through 3 strands:

* Research: Understanding youth attitudes and aspirations
* Youth Voice: Amplifying youth voice
* Policy Impact: Supporting better youth policymaking

The research seeks to analyse the conditions that support young people and allow them to reach their potential as fulfilled, productive and active citizens. Research is initiated in countries that are experiencing a period of significant change, with the purpose of ensuring that young people’s voices are heard, and their interests properly represented in decisions that will have lasting implications for their lives. The research is always completed with a series of recommendations based on supporting policy change. This research has been conducted in countries including the UK, Colombia, Germany, Ireland/Northern Irelands, Myanmar, Albania, South Africa, Tanzania, Turkey, and Vietnam. We look to see how one or more significant changes or periods of activity – particularly when a number of events or circumstance come together – affects young people’s view of themselves and their place in the world.

 **Context**

Since transitioning from 46 years of communism to a democratic multi-party system in the early 1990s, Albania has faced a challenging transition characterised by high unemployment, corruption, lack of rule of law, a system of financial pyramids (1997), high informal economy and a weak energy and transportation infrastructure.

In recent years, Albania has implemented important structural reforms. This has transformed Albania from one of the poorest countries in Europe to one with equitable growth, an increase in productivity and competitiveness in the economy, job creation, improved governance and public sectors, and an advance the European Union integration agenda. Recently (in 2022), Albania received the status of candidate country to become a member state of the European Union. However, the number of those that live below the poverty line in Albania is recorded to be 22%. (World Bank, 2022).

Albania is considered to have the second youngest population in Europe, after Kosovo. Since the early 1990s, the youth of Albania is ranked the first in the region to migrate into the EU and other countries for a better life and education. Consequently, the Next Generation Albania project is an opportunity to support the youth, stakeholders and the government increase their cooperation and join the synergies to implement the strategy and deal effectively with development challenges. It will support policy makers to implement the strategy based on the youth voice and recommendations to make them able to realise their full potential.

**Themes and key areas of research**

The study will focus and explore the following topics and themes (the list below is not exhaustive and open to amendment and suggestions from the supplier):

* Demographics
* Identity and Values
* Education and Skills
* Employment
* Local and Global Challenges
* Youth Voice (Political and Civic and Engagement
* Digital Media
* Arts and Culture
* Peace and Conflict Resolution
* Global Outlook

The British Council holds a strong commitment to Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) as stated in the organisation’s [policy and most recent strategy.](https://www.britishcouncil.org/about-us/our-values/equality-diversity-inclusion) Next Generation Albania must ensure the adequate and purposeful inclusion and adherence of the British Council’s approach to EDI and contribution to diversity and gender outcomes, through research methods and tools, sampling and data collection, and dissemination of research.

**Role Profile**

The British Council is looking to appoint a reputable service provider(s) with the following qualities:

**Research skills and experience:**

* Strong qualitative and quantitative research track record evidenced by previous projects.
* Expertise in conducting interviews and identifying case studies, evidenced by previous research projects.
* Strong experience in developing participatory research.
* Strong and dedicated team with suitable experience and qualifications.
* Strong experience in conducting research remotely and/or using digital/technological tools and methods.

**Stakeholder engagement skills and experience:**

* Knowledge and experience in developing, arranging, and leading on a variety of stakeholder engagement activities throughout the research process to inform the research process, in addition to create interest with relevant stakeholders.
* Strong experience in conducting stakeholder engagement activities remotely and/or using digital/technological tools and methods.

**Local knowledge and expertise:**

* Knowledge and expertise in the political, social, economic, and cultural aspects of Albania.
* Knowledge and expertise in the area of youth and youth issues.
* Knowledge of and/or already established relationships with networks of youth groups and youth stakeholders in Albania

**Other requirements:**

* Offering good value for money
* Capacity to deliver within the timeframes set out below.

*For more information and to learn how suppliers will be accessed, please review the full RfP.*

**Methods and Outputs**

**The final methodology** used for this research project will be agreed in consultation between the appointed service providers and the British Council. We anticipate the methodology to broadly include Desk research, a nationally representative quantitative survey, in-depth qualitative discussions, data analysis, conclusions, and policy recommendations.

Throughout the stages of the research process, we expect a range of stakeholder engagement activities to support the development, analysis and dissemination of the research and key findings.

**The final outputs** will be agreed in consultation between the appointed service provider and the British Council. We anticipate the final outputs to broadly include: Datasets; A final report in English; An executive summary; A slide deck of key findings; A number of stakeholder engagement activities as part of the research and dissemination process.

**Timescales**Subject to any changes notified to potential suppliers by the British Council in accordance with the Proposal Conditions, the intended timescales applicable to this Procurement Process are:

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| Activity  | Date / time |
| RFP Issued to bidding suppliers | Friday 4th November 2022   |
| Deadline for clarification questions (**Clarification Deadline**)  | 23:59 GMT 13th November  |
| British Council to respond to clarification questions | 23.59 GMT 16th November 2022 |
| Deadline for submission of Proposals by potential suppliers (**Response Deadline**)  | 23.59 GMT 4th December 2022 |
| Final Decision | 14th December 2022 |

 **How to apply**To access the full information, supporting documents, submit questions and submit a supplier response for this opportunity, please register and/or sign into the platform [**In-Tend Host**](https://in-tendhost.co.uk/britishcouncil/aspx/Home)**.**This Next Generation Albania opportunity is registered under In-Tend number: **BC/02676**If you have any queries regarding the In-Tend Host platform, please contact rhea.bhandari@britishcouncil.org