The UK-Israel Call for Inter-University Strategic Cooperation

The UK Science and Innovation Network and the British Council are pleased to invite proposals to the Inter-University Strategic Cooperation Programme.

The following notes provide guidance on eligibility and conditions upon which the grants are issued. Applicants are required to complete one application form online in accordance with the guidance notes here and follow any instructions provided on the application form.

1. **Background and expected outcomes**
   1.1. The UK-Israel Inter-University Strategic Cooperation programme is funded by the UK Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy and managed by the UK Science and Innovation Network and the British Council Israel.
   1.2. The Programme aims to strengthen academic collaboration between the UK and Israeli universities and research institutions. The scheme aims to support universities and other research institutions to hold academic meetings (symposium, workshops or conferences) as a seed for future UK-Israel academic collaboration.
   1.3. Collaborations must focus on institutional-level collaboration.
   1.4. In the long run, we hope that these collaborations will be able to address pressing global challenges and establish Britain and Israel as leading partners.

2. **Eligibility**
   2.1. Proposals must include the details of British and Israeli institutions and lead applicants who will act as co-chairs of the event. The application itself is submitted only once by a primary applicant – the lead applicants from the institution, who will host the event.
   2.2. Proposals must include a UK-Israel meeting in the form of a symposium, workshop or conference for at least two working days. Events should be delivered at a hosting university or research institution in the UK or Israel.
   2.3. Symposia must address and prove that the collaboration is of strategic importance to the institutions involved, and to the UK and Israel.
   2.4. Co-chairs have the freedom to design the content and the format of the event.
   2.5. Applicants are expected to hold leadership positions at their institutions.
   2.6. Multiple applications from institutions are acceptable; however individual partnerships may submit only one application. Duplicate applications or applications for reciprocal symposia will not be eligible.
   2.7. Higher education institutions must be officially recognised by both countries.
   2.8. The hosting institution should support the delivery of events in their facilities.
3. **Funding**

The programme has a total of £100,000 to fund all projects. Funding will be allocated on merit and preference will be given to institutions involved in the UK-IL delegations in December 2019 and January 2020.

All proposals must be submitted in British Pound Sterling.

The funding contract will be signed with the Primary Applicant’s institution, who will receive the funding.

3.1. Below are examples of the sort of scale and costs of potential projects. These are a guideline only:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Option 1</th>
<th>Option 2</th>
<th>Option 3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Our grant*</td>
<td>£4,500</td>
<td>£5,500</td>
<td>£6,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Co-funding**</td>
<td>£2,500</td>
<td>£3,000</td>
<td>£3,600</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total budget</strong></td>
<td><strong>£7,000</strong></td>
<td><strong>£8,500</strong></td>
<td><strong>£10,000</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Number of</td>
<td>5:5</td>
<td>6:6</td>
<td>8:8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>participants ***</td>
<td></td>
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</table>

* The amount of the grant provided.
** The amount of required co-funding provided by the hosting institutions. This includes in-kind support.
*** Minimum number of researchers from each country participating in the event. Option 1 for example requires at least five British and five Israeli delegates (10 in total), including co-chairs. Delegates from each side do not have to be from the same institution; they can be affiliated to different academic institutions in the country.

3.2. All payments will be made in GBP.

3.3. Grants are subject to approval of the budget submitted. The budget must outline the expenses, as well as a clear explanation for the planned co-funding expenses.

3.4. Co-funding can be demonstrated in-cash and in in-kind contributions, and include (but are not limited to): venue hire, flights, accommodation, design transportation, advisory services, working hours of staff involved in planning of the event.

3.5. Upon signing a contract, 80% of the funds will be released to the principal applicants. 20% of the funding will be released on submission of final narrative and financial reports, up to 30 days after the event.

3.6. All payments will be made to the main applicant’s institution (host).

3.7. Grants are intended to support the travel and subsistence of eligible individuals. Eligible costs include, but are not limited to, reasonable expenditure for the items below:
   - Return air travel, up to £500;
   - In country local transport (bus, rail, taxi etc.);
   - Accommodation costs, up to £140;
   - Meals/subsistence costs;
   - Media costs (e.g. around public events).

3.8. Inadmissible costs:
• Costs related to an accompanying spouse or children;
• Any contributions towards salaries or pension costs.

3.9. Successful applicants should take out adequate insurance as the British Council cannot take responsibility for any problems which may occur during a visit. Successful applicants will accept full responsibility for all aspects of the visit and take out insurance for any risks associated with taking part in travelling abroad, including all unexpected and uncontrollable events. The British Council will not be liable for the consequences of any such risks or any costs incurred.

3.10. Please note that successful applicants are expected to make their own travel and accommodation arrangements, and that the British Council will not be able to assist in requesting visas or taking out insurance required to carry out their visit. Successful applicants are responsible for any tax-related issues.

3.11. In the event of early termination of the grant, any payment made after the date of termination will have to be repaid as will the return portion of the travel money. Failure to comply with demands will result in the British Council and the Science and Innovation Network, responsible for the administration of Programme, seeking reimbursement of the full award plus administrative costs.

4. **Assessment**

4.1. Applications are assessed by a panel. The Panel’s decision is final and confidential. No appeals will be considered. The British Council is unable to enter into any communication on the Panel’s decisions. Feedback will not be provided to unsuccessful applicants.

4.2. The Panel will evaluate applications using the following criteria:

• **Quality and relevance of the proposal to the programme’s objectives:** depth, content, clarity and uniqueness of the symposium/workshop.

• **Value of collaboration:** must demonstrate the added value in the UK-Israel academic relations.

• **Outcomes and follow ups:** an outline for potential follow up steps following the event. Applicants must demonstrate that the activities proposed in their application will lead to a tangible and feasible outcome, for example a report of the event, publications, concrete collaboration, or bid for grant/call for proposals.

• **Effectiveness and feasibility:** must demonstrate how the proposed activities are feasible within the given time and budget constraints.

4.3. Priority will be given to proposals that **establish new collaborations** or **significantly upgrade existing collaborations** between the UK and Israel.

5. **Responsibilities of the Grantees**

5.1. Grantees will provide the British Council with a report of their activity (up to 1,500 words) within 30 days of concluding the programme. A final report template will be sent to successful applicants and will include a financial and a narrative segment.

5.2. The Science and Innovation Network and the British Council should be acknowledged in all communication materials and pertinent publications. The logos of the Science and Innovation Network and the British Council must be included in all communication materials.

5.3. Grantees will be expected to:
• Support the activity of the Science and Innovation Network and the British Council Israel;
• Attend Science and Innovation Network/British Council events, where relevant;
• Be available for press and media work;
• Ensure all elements of the proposed itinerary are completed satisfactorily, and inform the British Council of any substantive changes to the visit agenda.

6. **Other Compliance Matters**
6.1. Applicants must obtain the support from all partner institutions, and include the necessary documentation in their application. Applications that are not validated and/or not received by the specified deadline will not be accepted.
6.2. Submitting the application form constitutes confirmation that the information provided is complete and accurate, and acceptance of all terms, conditions and notices contained in the Guidelines for Applicants. Subsequent discovery of any deliberate misrepresentation will automatically render the application null and void. If an award has been made, the British Council will require a full refund.

7. **Equal Opportunities and Diversity**
7.1. The Science and Innovation Network and the British Council are committed to a policy of Equal Opportunities and we welcome applications from all sections of society. All applications will be evaluated solely on the basis of the award criteria as listed above.

8. **Data Protection**
British Council will use the information that you are providing in connection with processing your application. The legal basis upon which we will process your personal information is as set out in our terms and conditions. The legal basis upon which we will process your personal information to answer your enquiry is our legitimate interest.

The British Council complies with data protection law in the UK and laws in other countries that meet internationally accepted standards. 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 have concerns about how we have used your personal information, you also have the right to complain to a privacy regulator. For detailed information, please refer to the privacy section of our website [www.britishcouncil.org/privacy](http://www.britishcouncil.org/privacy) or contact your local British Council office. We will keep your information for a period of 7 years from the time of collection.

9. **Application**
9.1. Please fill the following online form; the deadline for applications is **8 February 2020** at 23:59 GMT.
9.2. Announcements will be made by **29 February 2020**, followed by a contract signature.
9.3. Projects are expected to take place in **2020**.
9.4. For all inquiries, please e-mail israelscience@britishcouncil.org. Please note that we are unable to comment on the content of applications.