

Going Global Partnerships

Guidance for Disability Inclusion Partnerships (DIP) Grant call

Call opens: 20 July 2026

**Call closes: 21 September 2026 11.00 AM
BST**

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About Going Global Partnerships

[Going Global Partnerships](#) supports universities, colleges and wider education stakeholders around the world to work together towards stronger, equitable, more inclusive and internationally connected higher education, science and TVET.

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.

Higher education and TVET providers and research organisations can access funding to develop collaborative partnerships with institutions in other countries, 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.

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.

If you are interested in our work in this area and want to get involved, please regularly visit our [Opportunities and insights webpage](#), where we publish all our funding calls and other opportunities.

Key Information about this Grant Call

Maximum value of grant in GBP: £ 25,000

Minimum number of grants expected to be funded in this call: 13

Deadline for applications: 21 September 2026, Time: 11:00 am (BST)

Contact for further information: goingglobalpartnerships-DIP@britishcouncil.org

Introduction

Higher education institutions play a key role in supporting the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the development of inclusive societies. However, globally they continue to face persistent inequalities related to disability, gender, socio-economic background, ethnicity, geography, and other factors. These inequalities are not experienced in isolation; they often intersect and compound one another and are often embedded within institutional cultures, policies, and practices.

Our work in Going Global Partnerships is guided by our commitment to advancing equality, diversity and inclusion in line with our organisational strategy, international development priorities and the UK's legal frameworks, with the aim of creating more inclusive, high-quality, and internationally connected higher education and research systems that benefit from diverse perspectives and talents, leading to stronger global partnerships.

The UK Government's commitment to international development is outlined in the [International Development White Paper \(2023\)](#), which emphasises the importance of equitable partnerships and coordinated action to strengthen inclusive systems and support those most at risk of being left behind. Our work also aligns with the [International Women and Girls Strategy \(2023–2030\)](#), which prioritises educating girls, empowering women and girls, and addressing intersecting inequalities that limit participation and leadership. In addition, it reflects the [UK's Disability Inclusion and Rights Strategy \(2022\)](#), which identifies equitable, quality and inclusive education as a key strategic priority.

Through Going Global Partnerships, we have already supported Disability Inclusion Partnerships across Indonesia, Uzbekistan, Kenya, and Pakistan, supporting institutions to strengthen disability inclusive approaches to research, teaching and learning, institutional policies and practices. **Please refer to Annex 2 for a list of the research projects funded in 2024 and 2025 across the 4 partner countries.** These partnerships form part of our wider commitment to supporting more inclusive higher education systems and strengthening institutional capacity to advance disability inclusion.

Despite growing recognition of the importance of disability inclusion, significant barriers and inequalities continue to affect the experiences and outcomes of disabled people globally. An estimated 1.3 billion people experience significant disability, which represents 16% of the world's population, or 1 in 6 individuals ([WHO, March 2023](#)). The Sustainable Development Goals are underpinned by the principle of 'leaving no one behind', recognising that disabled people must be included across all the SDGs.

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD), adopted in 2006 and ratified by 193 States as of 2026, marked a fundamental shift in how disability is understood. It recognises persons with disabilities as right holders who are entitled to participate fully and equally in society. It establishes inclusive education as a right and calls on education systems at all levels, including higher education, to identify and remove barriers to participation.

34 out of 193 United Nations Member States specifically guarantee in their constitutions the right to education for persons with disabilities or provide protection against discrimination based on disability, in education ([UN Flagship Report on Disability and SDGs 2018](#)). While significant progress has been made in widening access to higher education, important inequalities remain in participation, progression and outcomes for persons with disabilities ([Evans, 2025](#)) Although international commitments and national policies have strengthened considerably, implementation remains uneven. The UNDP notes that persons with disabilities continue to face barriers to full inclusion and that a more accelerated implementation of international commitments, improved disability data, and greater involvement with persons with disabilities in shaping solutions are needed to accelerate progress ([Modeer & Viera, UNDP, 2023](#))

Persons with disabilities remain significantly underrepresented across many higher education systems as students, researchers, academic staff and institutional leaders. They may face several barriers: physical, communication, digital or attitudinal; inaccessible curricula and learning environments; discrimination; and exclusion from wider campus life and leadership opportunities. Increasingly, evidence suggests that sustainable change requires a whole institution approach to disability inclusion, embedding disability inclusion across governance, policy, infrastructure, teaching and learning, research, student support services and organisational culture. (Evans, 2025)

Through Disability Inclusion Partnerships, UK institutions will work collaboratively with partner countries to identify and address these barriers faced by persons with disabilities, strengthen institutional capacity and promote sustainable change. Applicants are expected to apply an intersectional approach, recognising that disability may interact with other aspects of identity, such as gender, age, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation and socio-economic status to create additional barriers and inequalities.

Project model

Disability Inclusion Partnerships Grants support collaboration between UK and international higher education institutions to strengthen disability inclusion policies and practices.

The grants will be awarded to partnerships of one UK university (lead applicant) and at least one university in one of the eligible partner countries. The grant will be awarded to the UK institution, which will be responsible for the grant administration and overall project management of the international collaboration.

The grants are intended to support institutions to identify barriers to participation and progression for students and staff with disabilities, and to develop, test or implement approaches that contribute to more inclusive higher education environments. Projects should generate practical learning, evidence, resources, models or institutional approaches that can inform sustainable change and improve opportunities and outcomes for persons with disabilities, within the participating institutions and wider higher education systems.

Projects should contribute to on one or more of the following Outcomes described below under the section named Objectives and Outcomes.

The programme encourages a whole-institution approach to disability inclusion, recognising that meaningful and lasting change often requires engagement across institutional leadership, governance, teaching and learning, research, student support services, infrastructure and wider institutional culture.

Gender Equality and Intersectionality

To comply with the International Development (Gender Equality) Act 2014 and align with the FCDO Disability Inclusion and Rights Strategy 2022–2030, applicants must demonstrate how they have considered gender equality and intersectionality within the context of their proposed project.

Applicants should consider how disability may intersect with other characteristics and experiences, including gender, ethnicity, age, socio-economic background, religion or belief, sexual orientation and geography, and explain how these considerations have informed project design, delivery and intended outcomes.

An intersectional approach recognises that people experience disability differently depending on other aspects of their identity and lived experiences. For example, disabled women, disabled people from minority ethnic backgrounds, disabled people from lower socio-economic backgrounds, or disabled people living in rural and remote areas may face additional barriers to participation in higher education.

Projects are not expected to address every aspect of diversity. However, applicants should identify the most relevant intersecting factors within their context and explain how these have been considered throughout the project.

All applications will be assessed for an adequate Gender Equality and Inclusion Statement at the eligibility stage. Applicants are required to address the questions set out at Annex 3 in their proposal.

Partner countries and funding

We expect to fund approximately 13 projects, each with a maximum value of £25,000, for a project period of 17 months starting on 1 January 2027.

Awards will support partnerships between eligible UK Higher Education Institutions and partner institutions in the following participating partner countries: Bangladesh, Ghana, Indonesia, Kenya, Malaysia, Nigeria, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Ukraine and Uzbekistan.

Through these institutional partnerships between countries, partners will work together to identify and address barriers to inclusion, share knowledge and expertise, and develop sustainable approaches that improve opportunities and outcomes for persons with disabilities within higher education.

Call objectives and intended outcomes

Objectives

The Disability Inclusion Partnerships Grants aim to:

- Develop or strengthen disability-inclusive policies, systems and practices within higher education institutions.
- Improve opportunities, participation and outcomes for persons with disabilities in higher education.
- Support sustainable institutional change through partnership, evidence generation and knowledge exchange.

Expected Outcomes

Projects are expected to contribute to at **least one** (or more) of the following expected outcomes:

1. Strengthened institutional leadership, governance and capacity to implement disability inclusive policies and practices.
2. More accessible and inclusive learning, teaching and research environments for students and staff with disabilities.
3. Improved evidence and understanding of barriers and enabling factors affecting the participation, progression, and success of persons with disabilities in higher education.
4. Implementation of policies and frameworks that support disability-inclusive practice and sustainable institutional change.
5. Strengthened collaboration with organisations of disabled people, employers and other external stakeholders to support participation and progression beyond higher education.
6. Greater involvement, voice, and agency of disabled people in shaping institutional policies, practices and decision-making.
7. Greater integration of intersectional approaches into institutional decision-making, policy, and practice.

Projects should focus on realistic, achievable outcomes appropriate to the scale and duration of the grant funding period.

Project Duration and Timeline

Activities	Dates
Call for applications open for HEIs	20 July 2026
Deadline for clarification questions submitted by applicants	11 September 2026
Deadline for submitting proposals	21 September 2026 11:00 am BST
Selection process	October – November
Announcement of results	By mid-November 2026
Contract agreement signing (subject to due diligence procedures)	Within three weeks following results announcement
Issuance of the grant payment (100% of budget requested)	Within 30 days of grant agreement signing
Project delivery starts	1 January 2027
Introductory meeting with British Council in-country staff, agreeing communication modes and frequency	Late January 2027
Submission of first progress report	15 September 2027
Project ends	31 May 2028
Submission of final report	15 July 2028

All dates may be subject to change at the discretion of the British Council or due to any unforeseen circumstances. If timelines change, applicants will be contacted.

No project activities can take place after the project end date. If a funded project's planned activities timelines are required to be adjusted, an official request must be submitted in advance.

Virtual engagement activities may be organised by the British Council during or at the end of the project, to provide a platform to DIP partnership teams to present their work and learn from one another. DIP grantees may also be invited to present their projects at British Council events to support their visibility and engagement with the network.

Eligibility Criteria for Institutions and Projects

Eligibility checks will be applied to all applications after the grant call closes. Those applications which are not eligible, will be rejected during these checks.

Eligibility Criteria for Institutions

1. Each proposal must have both:
 - one Lead Institution from the UK; and
 - one Lead Institution from the overseas country
2. Each Lead Institutions must have the capacity to administer a grant.

The proposal must be prepared jointly by leaders from all institutions involved in the project but must be submitted by the UK Lead Institution on behalf of the partnership.

The Contracting Institution is the Lead Institution that has submitted the application, and if the application is successful, will sign the Grant Agreement with the British Council. A grant can only be awarded if the Contracting Institution is in good standing with the Going Global Partnerships programme, with no outstanding funds, to be recovered from a previous grant or activity, at the time of the proposal submission.

The UK Lead institution must be one of the following:

- Higher Education providers with [degree awarding powers](#).
 - England - Check the 'awarding degrees' drop-down section on the specific provider's entry on the [OFS register](#). The OFS register lists all institutions which offer UK degrees, not all of which have degree awarding powers.
 - [Northern Ireland](#)
 - [Scotland](#)
 - [Wales](#)
- 3. Overseas Institution must be one of the following:
 - Higher Education provider, as locally defined,
 - Not-for-profit research institutions, establishments and organisations, as locally defined
- 4. Please also refer to the Exceptions section below, where partner countries have additional eligibility criteria.

Associate Partners can be included in a partnership if they bring necessary expertise, demonstrable added value, and/or access to relevant target groups to the partnership. They will play a supporting role in the proposed project, and the funding they are eligible to

receive reflects this. As they are already included in the partnership, you cannot name additional staff or personnel of any of the named Lead Institutions as Associate Partners. Associate Partners may be affiliated with:

- Higher Education providers,
- Not-for-profit research or education institutions, establishments or organisations including non-governmental organisations (NGOs),
- TVET/FE providers.
- Education charities, foundations, or membership bodies.
- For-profit/commercial organisations, including small and medium enterprises (SMEs).
- Government organisations.
- Employer organisations and industry bodies.
- Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) and Social Enterprise organisations.

Please send an enquiry to goingglobalpartnerships-DIP@britishcouncil.org if you are in doubt about the eligibility of your organisation.

Eligible institutions are free to submit more than one application however should the call be heavily oversubscribed to ensure a fair distribution of grants, Lead Institutions (UK and/or overseas) who have submitted multiple applications may be contacted to prioritise a reduced number of applications to take forward. The other applications will be withdrawn.

Eligibility Criteria for Projects

This grant call is open to partnerships between the UK and a range of countries, some of whom have been [defined as developing countries by the OECD](#). The grant awarded to partnerships in these countries is therefore considered as Official Development Assistance (ODA).

The Grants made to partnerships with ODA-eligible countries must be ODA compliant. To be counted as ODA, all activities (research or otherwise) must qualify under rules set down by the OECD, which states that research projects should be **directly and primarily related to the problems of developing countries**. Please outline the economic development and social welfare impact of your work, including how it is conducted as well as the outputs and potential outcomes. The work should be relevant to at least one of the Sustainable Development Goals. The applications must have an adequate Gender Equality Statement.

The British Council supports peace and prosperity by building connections, understanding and trust between people in the UK and countries worldwide. To align our granting to this mission, we are unable to support projects with military or security partners, or with military, security or dual-use impacts or outcomes. All applications will be checked to ensure alignment with this policy at the eligibility stage.

All applications are checked to ensure alignment with this policy at the eligibility stage.

Exceptions

Indonesia

For partnerships with Indonesia, all criteria listed under the “Eligibility criteria for institutions” remain the same except for the following:

- Overseas Lead Institution must be an accredited Higher Education Institution as locally defined
- Refer to the Pre-Submission Checklist. For partnerships with Indonesia, the supporting letters from both Lead Institutions must include confirmation:
 - the agreed overall budget and spending distribution between the UK and Indonesian institutions, consistent with the submitted budget proposal.
 - The UK Lead Institution’s commitment to transfer the agreed funding allocation to the Indonesian Lead Institution within three months of signing the grant agreement.

Supporting letters must be in English, signed by the Head of Department or another authorised senior representative from the institution. The letter must represent specific commitment to the proposed project and must not be signed by any of the Lead Applicant(s).

Malaysia

For partnerships with Malaysia, all criteria listed under the “Eligibility criteria for institutions” remain the same except the following:

- Overseas lead institution must be a Higher Education Provider as locally defined
- Not-for-profit research institutions, establishments and organisations are eligible to participate as Associated Partners. However, they are not eligible to apply as, or assume the role of, the overseas lead institution.

Funding

The DIP Grants expects to support Disability Inclusion projects of up to £25,000 in value each for a 17-month period, starting from 1 January 2027. The table below shows the distribution across overseas countries.

Minimum Number of Grants available

Countries	Minimum number of grants available
Bangladesh	1
Ghana	1
Indonesia	4

Countries	Minimum number of grants available
Kenya	1
Malaysia	1
Nigeria	1
South Africa	1
Sri Lanka	1
Ukraine	1
Uzbekistan	1

Applicants may be asked to adjust their budget if their request does not fit within funding guidelines or if this is considered not appropriate by the application reviewers.

Matching funds from institutions are encouraged but are not a requirement.

There are some limits on funding allocations:

- For-profit non-education organisations are only eligible to receive funds to cover travel-associated costs. The proposal must clearly define their contribution to achieving call objectives.
- Human resource costs: Staff costs for personnel working directly on the grant funded project limited to 30% of the grant to be awarded.
- UK expertise costs: Limited to 20% of grant to be awarded.
- Travel costs: Limited to 20% of the grant to be awarded.

For successful partnerships, funds will be disbursed directly to the Contracting Institution according to the approved final budget and after signing of the Grant Agreement. The Contracting Institution is responsible for all budget management, including grant transfers to overseas partner/s. For an equitable partnership, the Contracting Institution should be able to transfer funding to the partnering institution(s) for activities in a timely way. Implementation will be delayed and the objectives of the collaboration and the overall project impacted if the funds are not shared in time. We encourage partners, especially first-time partners, to discuss in advance their internal mechanisms that will enable the budget transfer between countries.

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](#)', the Inter Academy Partnership report '[Doing Global Science: A Guide to Responsible Conduct in the Global Research Enterprise](#)', 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 all organisations - and by extension the staff who work for them - who contract with us, plus any other Associated Partners and suppliers, to operate within and adhere to our Safeguarding Policy which articulates our approach to protecting children and adults at risk, and ensures their wellbeing. By completing and submitting an application to this call, you are accepting and agreeing that the partnership and all associated organisations and persons will comply with and uphold all aspects of our Safeguarding Policy.

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.

Visit [Safeguarding](#) webpage for more information.

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).

We may share all application data with our funding partner in the UK, national partner organisations, or other relevant third-parties. The reason for this is that in countries where we work with partner organisations, the final decision on the grants will be made in consultation with them. We may share selected non personal data with agencies responsible for monitoring and evaluation of the DIGEP Grants.

Your information will not be used/shared beyond the partners mentioned above for any other purpose without your specific consent. British Council and its partners reserve the right to publish and share anonymised aggregated information with stakeholders.

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 [Visit our project website](#) We will keep your information for a period of seven years after the project.

Application Process, Documentation and Pre-Submission Checklist

Applications must only be completed and submitted via the [Good Grants online platform](#)

Any applications submitted via any other channel will be ineligible and will not be considered for funding. It is possible to download a blank version of the application form to enable your partnership to develop your answers together before it is submitted. The Good Grants platform will not allow submission where any specified word limits are exceeded or questions missed.

Accessibility

The Good Grants platform offers a wide range of accessibility support, and is fully compliant with Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) WCAG 2.2 AA standards, the Revised Section 508 ICT standards from the U.S. Access Board, and the European Union's

EN 301 549 Accessibility requirements for ICT products and services.

If you require any access adjustments or have any additional support or learning needs in order to submit the application, please contact us prior to the deadline.

Deadline

The deadline for applications is 11:00 am (BST time) on 21 September 2026. We recommend that you submit at least an hour before to avoid any last-minute technical glitches.

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

Documentation

All supporting documents (budget sheets, CVs, supporting letters) must be uploaded on to the Good Grants platform prior to the deadline.

Ensure you have included all of the documentation listed in the Pre-Submission Checklist below as incomplete applications may be immediately regarded as ineligible. The British Council receives large numbers of applications to its funding calls, and for this reason we cannot facilitate a resubmission process should your application be deemed ineligible.

Pre-Submission Checklist

1. This application has been discussed and agreed between both Lead Institutions.
2. The application form and supporting documents have been completed in English.

3. The applicants have included supporting letters from each of the Lead Institutions, on headed paper, signed by the Head of Department or more senior person, giving specific commitment to the project on behalf of the institution. Supporting letters must be in English and must not be signed by Lead Applicant(s).
4. Lead Institutions must have the capacity to administer a grant and satisfy British Council requirements to prevent bribery, fraud and professional misconduct. Applicants confirm that they comply with British Council requirements by responding to Pre-submission Confirmation in the application form.
5. Applicants have submitted a detailed budget request using the budget spreadsheet provided with the grant call documents on our funding call page.
6. Applicants must provide short professional biographies of all key project team members (maximum 150–200 words per individual), outlining relevant expertise, experience, and role in the project.
7. Where relevant, Associate Partner letters have been uploaded.

Impact on Environment

The British Council is committed to minimising its environmental impact. For this call, we have developed a set of questions in the application form which will enable us to understand the expected impact of a proposed project on the climate (and environment more broadly). We welcome information from Applicants regarding environmental considerations such as reducing carbon emissions for their projects (for example, alternatives to national or international travel such as virtual delivery), minimising waste or promoting resource efficiency.

Please note, responses to these questions will not form part of the grant assessment criteria and will not be subject to peer review. The British Council collects this information for internal purposes only.

Equality Diversity and Inclusion Statement

The British Council is the United Kingdom's international organisation for cultural relations and educational opportunities. Working effectively with equality, diversity and inclusion is an essential part of our purpose. We want to ensure that everyone who works with us and for us is treated with respect and dignity. We aim to remove barriers to granting, redress any identified imbalances caused by inequality and provide and maintain a fair and accessible process, ensuring application requirements have been designed to support inclusion and diversity.

Accessibility and Adjustments

Approach for reasonable adjustment and access support

We provide disability and accessibility support for applicants and grant recipients at different stages of the grant from application, project delivery to reporting.

Application stage

If you need support when applying for funding, you should try to speak to your employer first, if applicable (e.g., your university, or other host institutions).

If you need additional support to apply for this opportunity, please contact the British Council at [Going Global Partnerships](#) as early as possible (and at least two weeks before the application submission deadline as early notification helps us provide more timely assistance) to discuss individual needs for reasonable adjustments or disability-related support during the application. This includes e.g. requests for application information in alternative formats, access support worker to help you make an application, etc.

Project accessibility costs

Applicants and grant recipients are encouraged to take a proactive approach to build accessibility into the design and delivery of their proposed activities and events, so that we can improve the experience for everyone, particularly for disabled people. These include e.g. support from a Sign Language interpreter to make your designed event inclusive, remediation service to make your research report accessible, etc. These project accessibility costs should be planned and included in your project budget.

Personal access costs

These are designed to remove barriers and support the grant recipients (or their core team) in managing grants and delivering the project. These include e.g. requests for information in alternative formats, access to a support worker to help you during the project and in drafting the end of project report, a travel assistant to support your attendance to events, etc.

Note that these personal access costs should be planned as additional expenses on top of the project budget and therefore should be listed separately from the project budget. Make sure you plan for any personal access support you might need during or at the end of the project. Make sure you plan ahead where possible and consider our reporting requirements. These costs can only be for the project period (between your project start date and end date) and must be specific to your project. We are not able to cover costs for support that is unrelated to the activity. The amount of personal access costs you can include in your application should be relevant to your activity and the size of your task. These costs are submitted separately from your project budget and we do not take them into consideration in the evaluation of your application, as this allows for all applications to be submitted and assessed on an equal basis.

For example, if the maximum amount you can apply for the project is £10,000. Your application is for £10,000 and you also need an extra £500 personal access costs. We will consider this as an application for £10,000, rather than £10,500 and you will be eligible to apply. Please include as much detail in the expenditure line description. We need to understand what you are going to use the additional costs for, and how it's specific to your needs and project. Our grants cannot cover any activity or spending that takes place before we can make a decision.

These will be considered on a case-by-case basis and dependent on the funding available. Requests for Personal Access Costs will be reviewed only after the project is selected for funding. We may contract with the Contracting Institution for the main project, and then do a contract amendment for any additional amounts shortly afterwards. Kindly note request for Personal Access Cost won't affect the evaluation of the proposal. The requests for personal access cost would be reviewed by British Council EDI team and project members.

If you wish to discuss the requests and/or costs in your application, please contact the British Council at goingglobalpartnerships-DIP@britishcouncil.org

Please note that funding allocated for personal access costs is ring-fenced and must only be used for the stated purpose. Any unused funds should be returned in line with the British Council requirements.

Please contact us for further information on the British Council's approach. See our [Equality Policy](#).

Budget Sheet

Budgets must only be submitted using the Budget section of online Application form.

You will note that some budget categories are subject to a cap which is set as a percentage of the total amount of funding being applied for. Where a budget cap is specified, it must be adhered to as it is a stipulation of the funding. If caps are not adhered to, your requested budget may be subject to correction by the British Council to make it compliant, and this may result in a reduction of your grant.

A list of eligible and ineligible cost can be found in [Annex 1](#).

Selection Process

- All applications received by the deadline will be logged and acknowledged – if you have not received an acknowledgement within seven days, please check your spam folder for messages from British Council Good Grants. If you have not received any acknowledgement of receipt of application, please contact us with details by writing at goingglobalpartnerships-DIP@britishcouncil.org
- Applications will be reviewed for eligibility and completeness – if we do not have everything requested in the Pre-submission Checklist your application may be declared ineligible and not proceed to next stage. We receive large volumes of applications so we may not be able to notify you of this outcome at this stage.
- Applications will be assessed by a panel of subject experts, on the basis of the assessment criteria specified.
- The primary thematic area selected in the application, will determine whether it goes to the Disability Inclusion or Gender Equality panel.
- Top ranked applications will be selected and will be notified about their selection for contracting and disbursement of grants.

- Requests for Personal Access Costs from successful applicants will be reviewed only after the project is selected for funding.
- Unsuccessful applications will be notified at a later stage. You can ask for feedback to your application by writing to goingglobalpartnerships-DIP@britishcouncil.org

Assessment Criteria

Scoring range (0-20 per category)

- **20 points:** Meets all criteria to an exceptional level.
- **16 to 19 points:** Meets the majority of the criteria to a very high level.
- **11 to 15 points:** Meets the majority of the criteria to a high level.
- **6 to 10 points:** Meets the majority of the criteria to an adequate level.
- **1 to 5 points:** Meets some of the criteria to an adequate level.
- **0 points:** Fails to meet any of the criteria to an adequate level.

Categories

Project quality and relevance (Score 40%) percentage weighting

Criteria

- The proposal must explain how it meets the partner country's priorities as listed in national policy documents and/or based on relevant research OR in the absence of such policies are set in the context of the partner country and have the potential to influence policy.
- The proposal presents a clear and evidence-based rationale for its chosen thematic areas, with a clear articulation of the intended outcomes and how these respond to identified needs and opportunities.
- The proposal uses a 'whole institutional approach' to embed change, and this is reflected in the composition of the project team by inclusion of relevant university leaders/decision makers, EDI, Safeguarding, HR teams, etc.
- The proposed project involves, where relevant, key stakeholders from the wider ecosystem to drive systemic change (government bodies, disability networks, women's organisations, community leaders, civil society, industry associations).
- The proposal identifies clear benefits and impact to both Lead Institutions and stakeholders involved, including staff, students and the wider community in both countries.
- The proposal demonstrates it has a clear and credible approach to identifying and addressing intersectional barriers in its design, delivery and monitoring.
- Projects must be co-designed and jointly governed, ensuring balanced decision-making between UK and overseas institutions.

Methodology and design (Score 30%)

Criteria

- The activities are well planned and defined. The proposal contains clear, feasible, and realistic objectives, as well as potential for long-term impact. Where appropriate, proposals should demonstrate that activities are informed by institutional evidence, needs assessments or baseline data.
- Lead institutions clearly articulate specific outputs anticipated from the collaboration defining how they will be achieved and how they support the chosen thematic area.
- There is an effective monitoring, evaluation and learning framework in place, with clear disability and wider equality, diversity and inclusion indicators aligned to the project's intended outcomes, and designed to capture differential participation, experiences and outcomes across diverse participant groups and contexts.
- The methodology has been clearly articulated and is achievable within the given timeframes and activities described.
- Risks and any mitigation strategies have been clearly defined.

Resources (Score 10%)

Criteria

- The proposal represents value for money and all costs are fully justifiable. This means that proposal must achieve the best possible outcomes with the funding and resources available, while ensuring funding and resources are used effectively, economically and without waste.
- The proposal shows equity in the budget distribution with planning costs clearly distributed within the defined caps.
- The proposal's aims are commensurate with the experience of the individuals involved in the project demonstrated by a clear definition of roles and responsibilities.
- The Lead Institutions have sufficient relevant experience to lead the proposed activities and achieve the stated objectives, supported by an implementing team with the required expertise.
- The proposal offers development opportunities for staff who are under-represented in senior roles. This includes measures to ensure accessible and inclusive opportunities for people of different background, races, faith background, ages, gender, sexual orientation, and dis/ability to be involved throughout the project. This includes involvement as people who run the project, project activity participants and other relevant stakeholders.
- Budget distribution should demonstrate fairness, proportionality, and genuine partnership, with resources allocated to support capacity and leadership in both partner institutions.
- Outputs should reflect co-authorship and shared intellectual contribution from both institutions.

Sustainability (Score 20%)

Criteria

- The proposal clearly states how the proposed project contributes to structural change in the particular institution and could have potential scaling-up ability at local, regional, and/or national levels.
- The proposal should explain how project outputs will be embedded into institutional policies, procedures, strategic plans, quality assurance systems or ongoing budgeting processes.
- The proposal contains potential for long- term impact with a clear sustainability plan.
- The proposal includes a clear and feasible description of how the Lead Applicants' institutions intend to sustain their collaboration over the longer term to ensure the outcomes are sustained beyond the funding period.
- There is a planned mechanism for the dissemination of the results which will enable sharing practices and learning.
- Proposals should demonstrate how the project supports partner leadership, capacity development, and long-term autonomy.

Total score: 100

Applicant Screening

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; and/or
- 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; and/or,
- 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.

Granting Process

When a decision has been made on applications the British Council will send out a notification to all successful applicants with a timeline to accept the Grant.

This will be followed by sharing of the British Council Grant Agreement for signatures. Funding will be offered to successful applications on the terms and conditions as set out in the sample grant agreement which has been made available as part of the funding call launch. The terms and conditions in this template are non-negotiable and standard for all grants from Going Global Partnerships. Contracting Institutions are expected to obtain necessary institutional approval for these contractual terms prior to application submission. Please ensure you seek approval from any necessary internal colleagues or teams, such as pre-award, legal and/or finance, before the deadline for submission. The Grant Agreement to successful applicants will be populated with some of the data you have entered into your application, so please ensure that the responses you give are full and correct in order to prevent errors in the contract once it is issued.

Funds will be disbursed only upon the British Council receiving an acceptably signed copy of the Grant Agreement. It will be expected that the Grantee is able to return a signed copy of agreement within the stipulated timelines given by the British Council, and the funding may be at risk if the stipulated timelines are not adhered to.

British Council will also ask for a copy of the Contracting Institution's most recent Bank Details which should be supplied on the provided form and on the institution's letter head.

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. Visit - British Council
- The Contracting Institution is the Lead Institution that has made the application on the Good Grants platform. The Contracting Institution for the partnership will sign the Grant Agreement with the British Council. The Contracting Institution must be eligible to receive and manage grant funds. The Contracting Institution is accountable for delivery, reporting, and compliance with all grant requirements.
- Other key partners are names in the Grant Agreement. The Contracting Institution is responsible for flowing down the relevant clauses to the other partners.
- 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.
- A copy of the Grant Agreement is available with the call document.
- Terms and Conditions of the 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.

Monitoring and Reporting

The Contracting Institution is responsible for complying with the requirements of monitoring and reporting as detailed in the Grant Agreement. We require both financial and activity reporting.

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 insurance, and roaming charges during travel essential to the project, to the UK and partner country.
- 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
- 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).
- Consultancy fee (for external procurement and up to 20% of the total project costs).
- 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.
- Monitoring and evaluation costs.
- 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.

- The cost of staff time for full-time personnel working directly on the project -only the time allocated for the project, plus the costs of temporary personnel and other temporary staff recruited to work solely on the project,
- Exchange rate costs and other banking-related costs.

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.
- Costs associated with Master's and PhD scholarships (including stipends and tuition).
- 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.
- 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.
- British Council Grants cannot be converted to any Gift Cards, non-monetary assets, Crypto currencies.

Annex 2 – Projects funded under the Disability Inclusion Partnership Grants2024

Country	Project Title
Indonesia	Playful Co-Creation: building the Indonesian Higher Education Disability Union (I-HEDU)
	Enhancing disability-inclusive education in Indonesian universities (EmpowerID)
	Mapping and developing disability-inclusive practices across Indonesian universities
	Accessible, Excellence and Friendly (AURA)
	Enhancing Visually Impairment Access in Higher Education: Inclusive Learning Experiences, Policy Brief, and Implementing Accessibility for Students with Visual Impairment in the university
	Disability inclusive higher education for disaster risk reduction in Indonesia
	Designing a multiscale support system for digital education to improve higher education access for people with disabilities at Institut Teknologi Sepuluh Nopember
	Developing Inclusive Policies and Practices for Greater Accessibility in Higher Education
	Strengthening Higher Education inclusion through Universal Design for Learning (UDL)
	Empowering Dyslexic HE STEM Students using AI

2025

Country	Project Title
Indonesia	Financing Disability Inclusion in Higher Education: The Case of Indonesia
	Building Disability Inclusive Research Culture in Indonesia Higher Education
	Academic Success for Research with Visual Impairment
	Shining a light on unheard voices of disabled researchers: addressing barriers and fostering disability inclusion in UK and Indonesian Higher Education Institutions
	Transforming Higher Education: Empowering Disabled Students and Staff through Inclusive Intersectionality Policies and Collaborative Innovation
Uzbekistan	Overcoming barriers to achieving Inclusive University objectives in Uzbekistan
	Enhancing Disability Support Systems in Higher Education: A Cross-Cultural Collaboration Between the UK and Uzbekistan

Country	Project Title
Pakistan	Beyond Stigma: Assessing and Supporting ADHD and ASD Higher Education Students in a UK-Pakistan Partnership through the Intelli-Student Platform
	Learning4All – A Framework for Disability Inclusion in Research and Education
	Fostering Education Inclusion: Strengthening Accessibility and Support for Students with Disabilities in Higher Education
	Capacity Building of persons with disabilities for self-advocacy skills
	ENABLE; Enhancing Networks for Accessibility and Barrier-free Learning for Empowering Disability Inclusion in Pakistani Higher Education.
Kenya	Awareness to Action: Inclusive Education and Research Practices in Kenyan Universities
	Intersectional Approaches to Disability Inclusion: Examining the Impacts of Ethnicity, Gender, and Disability on Access to Learning and Research Opportunities in Higher Education Institutions in Kenya (AccessKen)
	Involvement and engagement in research by persons with disabilities at Kenyatta University, Kenya.

Annex 3 Gender Equality and Inclusion Statement

The British Council reserves the right to reject the application if inadequate consideration has been given to gender equality and inclusion, or if the proposal is assessed to result in a negative impact for gender equality and inclusion.

Analysis

- What gender equality issues are relevant to your project and context?
- How do these gender equality issues intersect with disability and other equality characteristics or lived experiences?
- Please provide relevant evidence, data or examples to support your analysis.

Measures

- How have gender equality and intersectional considerations informed the design and delivery of the project?
- What measures will be put in place to ensure equitable and meaningful participation of people of different genders throughout the project lifecycle?
- What steps will be taken to address potential barriers to participation and engagement that may affect different groups differently?

Impact

- How will the project contribute to improving gender equality within the context of disability inclusion in Higher education?
- How will the project contribute to improving opportunities, participation, or outcomes for different groups?
- How will the project ensure that benefits are experienced equitably by those involved?

Risks

- What potential risks or unintended negative consequences related to gender equality or intersectionality could arise during the project?
- How will these risks be monitored, mitigated and addressed?

Monitoring and Outcomes

- How will you monitor the impact on gender equality and other relevant intersectional factors?
- Will any relevant outputs or outcomes be measured using disaggregated data (e.g. by gender, age and disability, where appropriate and disclosed)?
- How will learning related to gender equality and intersectional inclusion inform project delivery and future institutional practice?

Applicants are encouraged to check the following resource which provides further information which will help you to write your gender and disability inclusion statement

- [British Council Equality, diversity and inclusion policy](#)
- [British Council Equality, diversity and inclusion strategy](#)
- [The United Nations Disability Strategy](#)
- [Guide to addressing gender equality](#)
- [Disability Inclusion Institutional Framework](#)
- [Race Equality Guide](#)
- [FCDO Disability Inclusion and Rights Strategy 2022–2030](#)
- [FCDO Programme Operating Framework \(PRoF\)](#)