

Going Global Partnerships

**UK-Malaysia University
Partnerships
Catalyst Grant 2022**

(Restricted Call for UK-MY University Consortium)

Guidelines for Applicants

Version 1.1

Call Opens:

7 June 2022 (Tuesday), 1000 UK time

Call Closes:

2 August 2022 (Tuesday), 1600 UK time

1. Introduction

[Going Global Partnerships](#) builds stronger, more inclusive, internationally connected higher education and TVET systems which support economic and social growth.

Through this British Council programme, you can connect, collaborate and innovate with universities, colleges, education policy makers and other partners in the UK and around the world.

The overall expected outcomes of the programme include:

- **Enabling research:** supporting research, knowledge, and innovation collaboration to address local and global challenges and promote inclusive growth
- **Internationalising higher education and TVET institutions:** creating an enabling environment while supporting institutions and individuals to benefit from internationalisation
- **Strengthening higher education and TVET systems:** improving the quality and efficiency of institutions and systems
- **Enhancing student outcomes:** improving the qualities of global graduates (e.g., soft skills, employability, community outcomes).

2. Opportunities

Going Global Partnerships offers you vital international opportunities - the chance to build relationships, to share ideas and good practice, to access grant funding for collaborative partnerships and more.

You can see current and upcoming Going Global Partnerships opportunities on our website:

<https://www.britishcouncil.org/education/he-science/going-global-partnerships/connect-collaborate>. We have many opportunities being launched at this time, so please check this page regularly.

This document refers to the following opportunity: **UK-Malaysia University Partnerships Catalyst Grant 2022 (Restricted Call for UK-MY University Consortium)**.

3. Data Protection

The British Council will use the information that you provide for the purposes of processing your application, making any awards, monitoring and 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 supporting/funding partners in the partner country to assist the management of the application process. We may share data with agencies responsible for monitoring and evaluation of the UK-Malaysia Universities Partnership Catalyst Grant.

The British Council complies with the General Data Protection Regulations 2016/679 (EU) GDPR). We process and handle personal information according to these regulations. The personal information that you provide on this form will only be used for the processing of your application. The information will be viewed by British Council, Department of Higher Education Malaysia staff and those who are part of the decision-making process. Your information will not be used/shared beyond the partners listed above for any other purpose without your specific consent. British Council 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 the Data Protection Team infogovernance@britishcouncil.org 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.

4. Overview of Opportunity

Under the Going Global Partnerships Programme, the British Council in Malaysia in collaboration with the Ministry of Higher Education (MoHE) has launched the inaugural **UK-Malaysia University Consortium in 2022**, which is designed to be a flagship initiative that promotes strategic engagement and bilateral cooperation in higher education between its partner universities in the UK and in Malaysia.

Through cooperation between the British Council and the Ministry of Higher Education Malaysia, the Consortium comprising 16 UK universities and 20 Malaysia public universities will lay a foundation for creating long term collaborations, shared priorities, and complementary expertise between UK and Malaysia in HE. This is aligned with the [Malaysian Higher Education Blueprint 2015-2025](#) and the [UK International Education Strategy](#).

Paving the path to achieving the Consortium's aim, the British Council is delighted to **publish a restricted grant call for lead institutions from the UK-Malaysia University Consortium to submit joint proposals in response to the UK-Malaysia Partnerships Catalyst Grant 2022. A total grant value of GBP220,000 has been allocated to support four higher education collaborative projects (GBP55,000 each) between the UK and Malaysia Consortium member institutions that address emerging higher education challenges which are shared by UK and Malaysia.**

5. Aim and Objectives

The overarching aim of the Grant is to facilitate partnerships among Consortium university members in UK and Malaysia in any of the four thematic areas below. The four thematic areas are decided based on the consolidated feedback from the consortium members on their priority areas for internationalisation and collaboration. **Cross-thematic and interdisciplinary proposals are strongly encouraged.** Please refer to Appendix 1 for the context of each thematic area.

1. Student employability and future work skills
2. Academic programme transformation through innovative pedagogy, competency-based curriculum and digitalisation
3. Entrepreneurship
4. Women leadership and empowerment in the workplace

The Grant can cover partnership activities with the objectives below.

- Strengthen capacity and quality in teaching, learning, research and innovation
- Share knowledge and exchange best practices
- Establish new institutional partnerships or enhance existing institutional partnerships in
 - a. student and staff mobility
 - b. internships and attachments
 - c. research and innovation
 - d. transnational education

Activities covered by the grant can be delivered in digital, face-to-face or blended formats. However, we strongly encourage the applicants consider the carbon footprint when planning and designing the activities for the proposals.

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6. Funding

The funding allocation for the Grant is GBP220,000 in total, and it is intended to support 4 partnership projects. For each project, funding of up to £55,000 will be awarded for a project duration of maximum 15 months between **October 2022 and December 2023**.

The funding must be jointly applied by a UK university and a Malaysia university which are both members of the UK-Malaysia University Consortium. However, partners for the project or known as associated partners may not be limited to the Consortium university members. Please refer to **Section 12 Associated Partners** for more information.

The British Council will sign the grant agreement with the leading UK universities and channel the funding to them in which they will be responsible to transfer the funding to their Malaysia counterparts. The leading UK and Malaysia universities are expected to discuss and reach an agreement about funding management and disbursement arrangement prior to apply to the Grant and **attach a letter describing their funding management and disbursement arrangement signed by both leading universities to the application**.

The UK universities who sign a grant agreement with the British Council will be accountable for the funding; however, their Malaysia counterparts should be aware of the British Council's funding requirements to prevent any unforeseen circumstances that will delay the project delivery and closure or lead to the withdrawal of funding.

The funding for the Grant is for the whole project duration and not per annum.

7. Relevance to economic development and social welfare [Official Development Assistance (ODA) eligibility]

For the purpose of the Grant, we define activities leading to impact with development relevance as activities that have the potential to contribute to the economic development and social welfare of low and middle-income countries, benefitting low income and/or vulnerable populations in these countries.

In order to be considered for funding under the Catalyst Grant, **all proposals must clearly articulate a plausible pathway to positive impact on these populations within a short to medium term timeframe (within 5 to 10 years). Applications which do not meet this criterion cannot receive the funding.**

In some disciplines, development relevance can be longer term and less direct than in other areas, impact may also be societal. In all cases, it is the responsibility of the applicant to articulate within the application how the proposed activities will meet these criteria. Applicants must provide the development impact in the application form and should not expect reviewers to make assumptions about development impact that is not clearly described within the proposal.

For more information, please read more at <https://www.britishcouncil.org/about-us/how-we-work/finance/official-development-assistance>).

Failure to demonstrate ODA eligibility will render your application ineligible regardless of other success criteria. Please make sure you consider the ODA relevance of your application.

In order to show development relevance within the context of their proposed project, applicants are advised to include within their application reference to any local or national consultation, links to government policies, and existing links with government institutions.

8. How to Apply

The Catalyst Grant is opened to the Consortium members only and the application must be jointly submitted by a UK university and a Malaysia university (Lead Applicants). The lead applicants must complete the application form via the link provided below and submit **before 1600 UK time on 2 August 2022 (Tuesday)**. Prior to that, please read **Section 9 and 10** carefully for eligibility criteria and eligible costs of the Grant.

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=wXVirt3MRkCyowWJFosyj7HXtlSR-CeRMqvsZvbl-kdhUNzE5TIA1NFqwSjNCRFVJSEpWTzNGSIM4My4u>

Documents below must be submitted following the instructions given in the online application form.

- CVs of the lead applicants
- Letters of support from the lead universities
- Letters of support from the associated partners
- Letter on funding management and disbursement arrangement
- Activity-based budget (Appendix 5)
- Gantt Chart
- Activity-based Monitoring and Evaluation Plan (Appendix 7)
- University bank details (Appendix 8)

A copy of the application form can be accessed in Appendix 4. The form is only for reference and preparation. **Submission via email is not accepted.**

9. Eligibility Criteria

Lead applicants for the Grant must meet all the following eligibility criteria. Applications that do not meet all eligibility criteria will not be considered.

ELIGIBILITY CHECK LIST	Y / N
The leading UK university and Malaysia university for the application must be a member of the UK-Malaysia University Consortium. Please refer to Appendix 2 for the list of consortium members.	
The proposal must be submitted as a joint UK and Malaysia partnership.	

The joint proposal may include other partner institutions/organisations from the UK, Malaysia or other countries which are not part of the Consortium. This must be indicated in the application form in Appendix 4.	
The leading UK university is accredited by the UK higher education qualification bodies/agencies.	
The leading Malaysia university is accredited by their respective in-country higher education qualification bodies/agencies.	
Letters of support from the leading UK university and Malaysia university are attached to the proposal. The letters must be signed by relevant senior authority within the university (e.g., PVC, Dean or Head of School).	
The leading universities must have the capacity to administer the grant.	
The leading UK university agree to sign the grant agreement with the British Council.	
The leading UK university is responsible for disbursing the grant to the leading Malaysia university.	
A supporting letter elaborating the funding management and disbursement arrangement signed by both leading UK and Malaysia universities must be attached.	
The lead applicants must be able to work on the project till it is completed including a tenure contract with the leading universities that covers the project period. We do not accept changes to the lead applicants of the project.	
The lead applicants must have the capacity to execute the project activities	
The partners must submit letter of supports which describe their contributions to the project. The letters must be signed by relevant senior authority.	
The online application form must be completed and submitted.	
Activity-based budget template (Appendix 5), activity-based monitoring and evaluation plan (Appendix 6) and Gantt Chart must be uploaded.	
The leading universities confirm that the Grant Agreement for Partnership Catalyst Grant (Appendix 7) has been reviewed and agree to sign the grant agreement upon receiving the notification of successful application.	
Bank details must be provided together with the application using the Bank Details Form (Appendix 8), signed and printed on the letterhead of the institution.	

10. Eligible Costs

All proposals submitted must include the completed activity-based budget in Appendix 5. The budget requested in the proposal should cover only costs that are essential, appropriate, and relevant to the collaboration to ensure value for money. The proposal should specify any cost sharing through direct and indirect institutional contributions.

A list of eligible and ineligible costs can be found in Appendix 3. Lead applicants should contact the British Council (refer to Section 18 for contact details) if in any doubt about the costs covered by the funding.

11. Co-funding and in-kind contribution from other sources

Leading universities are encouraged to co-fund the project, provide in-kind contribution and seek for other sources of funding in supporting and sustaining the work. Co-funding is not a criterion for this grant, but it adds value to the proposals and will be given extra consideration during assessment and selection.

12. Associated Partners

To support the proposal objectives and its achievements, Lead Applicants are encouraged to include partners in their proposals. An associated partner is defined as a collaborating organisation such as government agencies, higher education institutions, sector organisations, research institutions, industries etc. that will have an integral role in the project and from which you have secured a commitment (other than that from British Council) to provide additional resources for this project. This may include in-kind or cash contributions such as expertise, staff time, use of facilities, etc.

Associated partners who are non-profit organisations and institutions can receive a partial of the grant from the lead institutions to deliver the project activities; however, the funding provided to them must be stated clearly in the activity-based budget template and their roles must be clearly specified in the application. For-profit organisation and institutions who are associated partners **cannot** receive the grant from the lead institutions for the project activities.

Please note that for-profit organisation, institutions, or individuals which provide consultancy services for the project, essential for the success of the project, are not associated partners. Standard procurement policy and process must be followed when procuring the services. Please refer to Appendix 3 “Eligible Cost” for more information.

13. Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

The British Council is committed to equal opportunities and diversity in all activities, including the avoidance of bias due to gender, disability, racial or ethnic origin, sexual orientation, or religious belief. Lead applicants are encouraged to work towards achieving an equal gender balance and promote diversity, ensuring no applicants are excluded from participation on the basis of ethnicity, gender, religious belief, sexual orientation, or disability.

Further information on the British Council's Equality Policy can be found at <https://www.britishcouncil.org/organisation/transparency/policies/equality-diversity-inclusion>

14. Gender Statement

Applicants are required to consider the impact their project will have on gender and provide a gender statement. 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 programme.

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.

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.

15. Communication, promotion and publicity

Lead Applicants must have a solid plan to communicate and promote the activities, share the results and outcomes of the project with external parties and stakeholders. Branding guidelines will be shared along with the Grant Agreement.

16. Digital Platform

The British Council strongly recommends using Microsoft Teams to deliver virtual activities and workshops. Lead applicants, who want to use other online tools or online platforms, must follow British

Council's safeguarding and security protocols. Please email the British Council mykul1education@britishcouncil.org if you have any questions.

17. Project Reporting, Monitoring and Evaluation

Successful applicants are responsible to submit **a progress report every six months and a final report** to the British Council. This report shall consist narrative and financial information that tracks progress against the milestones submitted by the applicants in the Monitoring and Evaluation Plan. A report template will be provided after the grant agreement is signed.

Applicants are also expected to report efforts and contribution made on gender equality as discussed in the gender statement submitted by the applicants.

The British Council will conduct regular monitoring and evaluation, including the commission of independent evaluations of selected activities that are of strategic importance to the Grant.

Record of project including record of activities, contracts, important project document, spending and supporting documentations related with financial transaction should be kept according to the retention period of UK and Malaysia and for the purpose of external audit.

The applicants must submit the activity-based monitoring and evaluation plan for the project using Appendix 7.

18. Assessment Criteria

The joint applications will be screened on their eligibility based on the eligibility criteria and then assessed based on the information provided in the application form and documents using the assessment criteria as following. Shortlisted applicants may be contacted for further information about their proposals. **Only applications score 70% and above will be shortlisted.**

The assessment will be done by a panel of evaluators from the British Council, Department of Higher Education and sector experts. A final award decision will be made by the British Council.

Selection criteria (max score = 100)	Weight of score
<p>Proposals, ODA relevance and ability to deliver</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Project Summary: Proposals must clearly explain what the project expects to achieve and how this will create measurable and tangible impacts in enhancing the thematic areas between UK and Malaysia. Projects principally benefiting one institution will not be considered.Deliverability: Proposals must incorporate a credible delivery plan with realistic milestones for progressing the different elements of the project for timely completion. Projects must be led by a team with the skills and experience necessary to successfully deliver the proposed work. Proposals must demonstrate the commitment of the project team towards successfully developing, delivering and sustaining the programme. Gantt chart must be included.	40%

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monitoring and evaluation: Proposals must have a clear monitoring and evaluation plan. The plan should explain the key performance indicators and monitoring procedure. Tangible milestones should be set, with an explanation as to how they would be measured. A risk management plan should also be included. ODA: Clear evidence is provided demonstrating that the project will contribute to the economic development and social welfare of the partner institution and within a reasonable timeframe (within 5 to 10 years). 	
<p>Alignment with strategic objectives of the Grant and the Consortium</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposals must show a clear understanding of the Grant's strategic objectives and how to achieve them. Proposals must align with the Consortium's strategic objectives. Proposals must demonstrate the ability to generate outcomes that meet the Grant's strategic objectives. Proposals must clearly explain the potential opportunities for individuals in the UK and Malaysia. 	30%
<p>Sustainability, EDI and value for money</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sustainability: Proposals must be sustainable with benefits that can endure beyond the funding period. Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI): Impacts of the proposals on gender equality must be clearly articulated and measures must be in place to ensure equal and meaningful opportunities for people of different backgrounds, race, faith, ages, gender, sexual orientation, and dis/ability throughout the project. This includes those running the project, activity participants, and beneficiaries. Value for money: Proposals must demonstrate the best possible outcomes with the funding and resources available. Co-funding is an added value. 	30%
Total	100%

19. Payment and Spending

Following announcement of the results, the British Council will sign Grant Agreements with the successful applicants on the UK side. The leading UK universities are expected to allocate funding to their Malaysian counterparts. **A supporting letter signed by both leading UK and Malaysia applicants must be attached to the application, which elaborate the funding management and disbursement arrangement, to indicate prior agreement to this arrangement.**

Unless otherwise stated, the British Council will administer 90% of the funding within 60 days of receiving the signed Grant Agreement. Once the funding is released, a notification will be sent to the account contact details provided by the university in the Bank Details Form (Appendix 8). Please ensure

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that you provide the right contact details on the Form. **All successful applicants must email mykul1education@britishcouncil.org confirming they have received the funds by 1 December 2022. The 10% balance of payment will be paid by 30 April 2024 upon satisfactory review of the project.**

Expenses incurred by the lead applicants prior to the start date or beyond the end date of the signed grant agreement, including any costs incurred in the production of the proposal, cannot be charged to the Grant.

The British Council reserves the right to recover payment in full if the final report and supporting documents are not satisfactory, or the activities have not been delivered as planned.

In cases where the project expenditure is less than the funding awarded, the underspend cannot be used for further activity unless agreed by the British Council. Requests to utilise the underspend should be sent to mykul1education@britishcouncil.org prior to additional expenditure. Requests should be submitted from 3 months before the end of the project.

In cases where the project activities cannot be delivered due to unforeseen circumstances, the successful applicants should consult the British Council at mykul1education@britishcouncil.org for the funding to be repurposed.

20. Timeline for Catalyst Grant

Activity	Timeline / Important Dates
Call for applications	7 June 2022 (Tuesday)
Grant Briefing Session	21 June 2022
Clarification questions submitted by applicants	Before 15 July 2022
Request for Amendments to Terms of Contract (if any)	Before 5 July 2022
Responses on the questions and amendments from British Council	Before 22 July 2022
Application deadline	2 August 2022 (Tuesday)
Eligibility Check, proposal assessment and due diligence	3 August 2022 – 19 August 2022
Notification of proposal's outcome	Before 26 August 2022
Agreement signing and funding disbursement	Before 15 September 2022
Inception meetings	End September 2022
Project implementation	1 October 2022 – 31 December 2023
6-month progress report's submission	First report (1 October 2022 – 31 March 2023) due in April 2023 Second report (1 April 2023 – 30 September 2023) due in October 2023
Final report's submission	By 15 January 2023

21. 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 nor any of the applicant's employees, partners, directors, or 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) 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 on a screening database for any of the reasons set out above, the British Council will assess the applicant as ineligible to apply for this grant.

The applicant must comply with all reasonable requests from the British Council for information to complete the necessary screening searches. Applicants should please read the relevant text on the application form and tick the box to show they understand it.

22. Contact Details

For all enquiries relating to the UK-Malaysia Universities Partnership Catalyst Grant, please contact UK-MY University Partnership Grant team at mykul1education@britishcouncil.org

Appendix 1

Thematic area	Context
<p>Student Employability and Future Work Skills</p>	<p>Student Employability and future work skills have always been part of Malaysia Higher Education priority, which is to produce better graduates that ready for workforce.</p> <p>The current pandemic situation has fast-tracked the country's transformation to the era of Industrial Revolution 4.0 (IR 4.0). According to the Malaysia Digital Economy Corporation's (MDEC), Malaysia is seeing five years of digital transformation in just one year, whereby it has already made major headway in its efforts to future-proofing itself, mainly in talent development and next-generation infrastructure for the coming of IR4.0.</p> <p>The overall economic situation in 2022 has started to see improvements. This situation allows the economic and business activities to continue operating, leading to more labour demand in the market to accommodate the needs of the business operations. This situation gives a positive signal to the labour market, thus encouraging more inclusion in the labour market and enabling the labour market to remain strong for the months to come. the unemployment rate for youth aged 15 to 30 years diminished by 0.2 percentage points to 8.1 per cent, registering lower number of unemployed persons at 513.7 thousand persons (January 2022: 8.3%; 521.8 thousand persons)¹</p> <p>Having the country quickly moving into the era of 4.0, as well as the picking up of the country's business activities, the British Council sees the need to working hand-in-hand with the Ministry of Higher Education towards producing graduates who are well equipped with the relevant IR4.0, in line with the national mandate.</p>
<p>Academic programme transformation through innovative pedagogy, competency-based curriculum and digitalisation</p>	<p>The Experiential Learning and Competency-Based Education Landscape (EXCEL) framework for higher education was launched in Malaysia last year. An effort by the Division of Academic Excellence under the Department of Higher Education, EXCEL is an academic programme transformation framework developed by the Ministry of Higher Education in collaboration with public universities, the Malaysian Qualifications Agency (MQA) and several other agencies such as Talentcorp, Malaysian Investment Development Authority (MIDA) and the Social Security Organisation (Socso). The framework on EXCEL has been designed to thrust the Malaysian higher education academic programmes into a higher level of quality and effectiveness, given the current global COVID-19 pandemic and the vast technological advances</p>

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https://www.dosm.gov.my/v1/index.php?r=column/cthemebByCat&cat=124&bul_id=bU9ybEFIM2UrUlpxa2g4M1JkOFhTdz09&menu_id=Tm8zcnRjdVRNWWlpWjRlbnRlaDk1UT09

	<p>needed as the sector has been pushed to go beyond normalcy and employ strategic as well as innovative methods of providing education.</p> <p>The EXCEL framework focuses on competency-based education and experience learning methods through four cores - Industry Driven Experiential Learning (IDEAL), Community Resilience Experiential Learning (CARE), Research Infused Experiential Learning (REAL), and Personalised Experiential Learning (POISE).</p> <p>The Ministry's aspiration is that EXCEL will be an instrument for the improvement of higher education academic programmes that would allow the sector to advance not only towards the objective of graduate employability, but also towards a sustainable future for higher education.</p> <p>Through collaboration in this programme transformation, EXCEL has the potential to trigger the creativity and innovation of Higher Education Institutions in designing their respective study programme through innovative pedagogy, competency-based curriculum and digitalisation.</p> <p>https://cdae.usm.my/files/EXCEL_Experiential_Learning_And_Compentency-Based_Education_Landscape_EBOOK.pdf</p>
Entrepreneurship	<p>Entrepreneurship is the main driver of the Malaysian economy where Small-Medium Enterprise (SMEs) accounted for more than 90% of the total businesses locally. The reliant of SMEs as the thrust of GDP is immediate with 66.2% of the population working with SMEs contributing to 28.8% export value or Gross Domestic Product in 2019. However, the performance level is relatively low if compared with other high-entrepreneurial economies such as Germany, Canada and the UK with more than 60% job creation from SMEs business.</p> <p>The cause and effect from the numbers as stated by the Ministry of Entrepreneurial Development and Cooperatives Malaysia (MEDAC) in the National Entrepreneurship Policy 2030, may be related to the increase in graduates without the right industry skills set and in return, has resulted in mismatch and diminishing return for the economy. The solution to overcome this problem is not a short-term approach but rather a long-term with the ecosystem needs to be strengthen at the grassroot level which is education.</p> <p>The British Council with the Malaysian key stakeholders from 2018-2020 has produced various higher education and entrepreneurship research in the areas of Social Innovation as one of our key interventions in improvising the Entrepreneurship ecosystem in this region. In addition, the UK sets its milestone with various efforts in the Enterprise and Entrepreneurship Education such as the Teaching Excellence Framework and the Destinations of Leavers from Higher Education.</p> <p>To further sustain the initiatives in Entrepreneurship and Education, the GGP UK-Malaysia University Partnerships Catalysts Grants is open for proposal submission, and we encourage cross-thematic proposals to ensure a wider impact and innovative solutions to be brought forward.</p>

Women Leadership and Empowerment in the workplace

Ministry of Higher Education Malaysia's statistics in 2020 showed that 60% of the Malaysian academic staff in the public universities was female academic staff, and by qualifications, female academic staff was leading in numbers compared to male academic staff in PhD, Masters and Degrees; however, only 36% of them have a professorship. On top of that, women who play a leadership and managerial role in public universities are much lesser. It is worth noting that the posts of Vice-Chancellor and Deputy Vice-Chancellor in public universities are political appointments. In 2017, four female Vice-Chancellors who were appointed at that time, two went retired and replaced by male Vice-Chancellors and one was promoted to another post, and the situation has not changed much since then. In 2021, only three women holding Vice-Chancellor in Malaysian public universities. The high number of female academic staff in the public universities does not translate into women's leadership representation, which is contributed by many other factors, besides political will, including gap year taken for childbearing, women being family caretakers. Historically, across the globe including Malaysia, women participated in the higher education and being part of the universities at a much later time compared to men and so it seems "natural" for men to be the VC and DVC in a patriarchal society, and the social norm requires changes.

The twelfth Malaysian plan (2021-2025), like the past Malaysian plans, has emphasised on women's leadership and participation in labour force, and it has also been highlighted in the Malaysia Education Blueprint – Higher Education (2015-2025) to increase women's leadership in various sectors by producing female graduates that can excel in future workplace and assume leadership roles. There have been some minor improvements in addressing the women's leadership though not necessary on the gap in universities, but its inconsistency has been a draw back and more must be done.

The British Council has put an increasing emphasis on gender equality over the past five years and this is reflected in Strategy 2025. Our cultural relations expertise and our neutrality in many countries worldwide enables us to broker relationships, build trust and facilitate dialogue on gender inequalities in ways that might be difficult for other organisations. In our higher education work, we build partnerships and networks, support learning and collaboration, convene policy dialogue and support innovation through international engagement. This creates many opportunities to make a difference and to facilitate learning between the UK and the rest of the world on how values of equality can be put into practice.

Appendix 2

List of Consortium University Members

Malaysia Universities

All public universities are currently member of the consortium.

Public Universities are government-funded higher education institutions under the purview of the Ministry of Higher Education Malaysia. There are currently 20 public universities in Malaysia which offer undergraduate and postgraduate programmes, and some pre-university foundation year and diploma courses. They can be divided into 3 major groups i.e. 5 research universities, 11 comprehensive universities and 4 specialised technical universities.

Below is the list of public universities:

	Public University Name	Acronym	Website
1	International Islamic University Malaysia	(IIUM)	<u>Universiti Islam Antarabangsa Malaysia</u>
2	Islamic Science University of Malaysia	(USIM)	<u>Universiti Sains Islam Malaysia</u>
3	MARA University of Technology	(UiTM)	<u>Universiti Teknologi MARA</u>
4	National Defence University of Malaysia	(UPNM)	<u>Universiti Pertahanan Nasional Malaysia</u>
5	National University of Malaysia	(UKM)	<u>Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia</u>
6	Northern University of Malaysia	(UUM)	<u>Universiti Utara Malaysia</u>
7	Putra University of Malaysia	(UPM)	<u>Universiti Putra Malaysia</u>
8	Sultan Idris Education University	(UPSI)	<u>Universiti Pendidikan Sultan Idris</u>
9	Sultan Zainal Abidin University	(UniSZA)	<u>Universiti Sultan Zainal Abidin</u>
10	Technical University of Malaysia	(UTEM)	<u>Universiti Teknikal Malaysia Melaka</u>
11	Tun Hussein Onn University of Malaysia	(UTHM)	<u>Universiti Tun Hussein Onn Malaysia</u>
12	University of Malaya	(UM)	<u>Universiti Malaya</u>
13	University of Malaysia, Kelantan	(UMK)	<u>Universiti Malaysia Kelantan</u>
14	University of Malaysia, Pahang	(UMP)	<u>Universiti Malaysia Pahang</u>
15	University of Malaysia, Perlis	(UNIMAP)	<u>Universiti Malaysia Perlis</u>
16	University of Malaysia, Sabah	(UMS)	<u>Universiti Malaysia Sabah</u>
17	University of Malaysia, Sarawak	(UNIMAS)	<u>Universiti Malaysia Sarawak</u>
18	University of Malaysia, Terengganu	(UMT)	<u>Universiti Malaysia Terengganu</u>
19	University of Science Malaysia	(USM)	<u>Universiti Sains Malaysia</u>
20	University of Technology Malaysia	(UTM)	<u>Universiti Teknologi Malaysia</u>

The five public universities that have been designated as research universities are Universiti Malaya (UM), Universiti Putra Malaysia (UPM), Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM), Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM) and Universiti Teknologi Malaysia (UTM). USM has also been awarded Apex university status. The four specialised universities under the Malaysian Technical University Network (MTUN) are UTHM, UTeM, UMP and UniMAP.

*Please reach out to the contact persons at the British Council if you need support in reaching out to focal points at Malaysian Public Universities.

UK Universities

No	UK University Name	Acronym	Website
1	Liverpool John Moores University	LJMU	https://www.ljmu.ac.uk/
2	University of Suffolk	Suffolk	https://www.suffolk.ac.uk/
3	University of East Anglia	UEA	https://www.uea.ac.uk/
4	Cardiff University	-	https://www.cardiff.ac.uk/
5	University of Nottingham	UoN	https://www.nottingham.ac.uk/
6	Bournemouth University	BU	https://www.bournemouth.ac.uk/
7	Scotland's Rural College	SRUC	https://www.sruc.ac.uk/
8	University of York	UoY	https://www.york.ac.uk/
9	Coventry University	CU	https://www.coventry.ac.uk/
10	Cardiff Metropolitan University	Cardiff Met	https://www.cardiffmet.ac.uk/
11	University of Glasgow	UofG	https://www.gla.ac.uk/
12	University of Central Lancashire	UCLAN	https://www.uclan.ac.uk/
13	University of Surrey	US	https://www.surrey.ac.uk/
14	University of Gloucestershire	UoG	https://www.glos.ac.uk/
15	Kings College London	KCL	https://www.kcl.ac.uk/
16	University of Portsmouth	-	https://www.port.ac.uk/

Appendix 3

Eligible costs

The following costs are eligible for funding:

- Travel and subsistence costs to the UK and Malaysia, visa fees, vaccinations, Covid-19 testing, medical insurance, and roaming charges during travel essential to the project, to the UK and Malaysia
- Local travel in the UK and overseas (public transport to and from the airport and for meetings/visits is encouraged where possible).

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- Reasonable accommodation and subsistence costs for staff when visiting their partner organisation in the UK or overseas (Please refer to the British Council's travel and subsistence rates in UK and Malaysia on Appendix 5 – Activity based Budget Template. The costs for accommodation and subsistence are capped at these rates.)
 - 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 30% of the total project costs).
 - Cost of temporary research and research assistant personnel, and other temporary staff recruited to work solely on the project.
 - 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 Malaysia and UK, 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.

Ineligible costs

The following costs are ineligible for funding:

- Full economic costs (FECs).
- Staff costs of the participating organisation. The funds are not intended to contribute towards the direct costs of full-time staff associated with the project.
- 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).
- 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 during the period of this grant.

For appendix 4 – 8, please download from the website.

Appendix 4

Application Form

Appendix 5

Activity-based Budget Template

Appendix 6

Activity-based Monitoring and Evaluation Plan Template

Appendix 7

Grant Agreement Template

Appendix 8

Bank Details Form