

UK VIETNAM HIGHER EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP

Frequently Asked Questions

As of 20/06/2018

(This Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) will be updated frequently as we receive questions from interested higher education institutions)

1. Submission an Expression of Interest and Proposal

How to submit an expression of interest (EOI)?

Interested UK and Vietnamese HEIs are invited to submit their EOI at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/QLSBKGQ> by 5p.m (GMT) 29 June 2018.

How to submit a full proposal?

The full proposal application form will be made available to HEIs who have expressed their interest by end of June.

How will the consortia of universities operate?

A consortium will include a UK university playing the leading role and one or more Vietnamese universities, all of whom will work on maximum two areas of priorities in the call. The British Council will communicate a suggestion of consortia of universities after reviewing the expressions of interests from UK and Vietnam HEIs in the first week of July. UK and Vietnam universities will then discuss about how they are working together to deliver their proposed projects.

The consortia of universities will operate on a knowledge and experience sharing basis. Participating partnerships are committed to share success, issues and challenges and aim to provide to the member of the network and discuss on solutions, which will be formed as a policy brief to the Ministry of Education and Training.

Is there a limit on the number of Vietnamese partners in each consortium?

No, but more than one Vietnamese partners in each consortium is highly recommended

How will the partnership proposal build on the EOI responses?

The British Council will review the EOI responses in the first week of July, and will group UK and Vietnamese HEIs with similar interests into consortia. UK and Vietnamese HEIs will then discuss with each other to agree on the full proposal to be submitted by 3 August 2018.

What forms of partnerships, types of proposed activities are included and what priorities should be met through the partnership?

HEIs are advised to develop partnerships and activities which fall within four priority strands of the HEP schemes, which are Leadership and Governance, Research and Mobility, TNE partnership and Quality Assurance, and University Industry links.

Please review the expected outputs as indicated in the appendices of the [Guidelines for applicants](#).

How to submit a successful proposal?

Please refer to section 9 in the [Guidelines for applicants](#) for criteria for evaluation of applications.

Which are requirements on qualitative and quantitative outcome indicators?

There are no specific requirements on indicators for partnership projects. Applicants are advised to deliver innovative output-led project and create positive changes as project outcomes. Please also refer to section 9 in the [Guidelines for applicants](#) for criteria for evaluation of applications.

How can UK HEIs lead and guide Vietnam HEIs and create opportunities?

The British Council in Vietnam will develop UK-Vietnam Higher Education Network which includes HEIs in the UK and Vietnam taking part in the UK- VN HEP. UK HEIs will take the lead in sharing success, case studies and solutions on higher education, and discussing potential collaborations.

How can UK, Vietnam HEIs and industry work on the degree apprenticeship?

Higher and degree apprenticeships are new for higher education in Vietnam. Therefore, we are keen to support UK and Vietnam higher education partnerships in this area. It can be UK HEIs sharing their models in running successful higher and degree apprenticeships, for example in terms of quality assurance, managing the programmes, getting employer's input into academic programmes, ensuring relevant match between the industry's professional standards with learning outcomes, creating opportunities for students to develop up to date work experience skills while on university degree study, etc. Alternatively, it can be a TNE programme which is similar to a higher and degree apprenticeship in the UK. However, the British Council does not impose any approach or model on how to develop this, but would encourage interested HEIs to develop innovative models that work best for the partnership and their institutions. For further details, please refer to Appendix 4 of the [Guidelines for applicants](#).

What's the timeline for the whole process?

Activity	Date
Briefing webinar	8 and 15 June 2018
EOI response submission	29 June 2018

Consortium of interested HEIs and relevant parties formed	6 July 2018
Call for Proposal released	9 July 2018
Submission of proposal	3 August 2018
Confirmation of grant	10 August 2018

2. Finance related questions

How is the grant distributed?

Each proposal will be able to bid for a minimum of £15K and max £30K for 2018, and a similar amount for 2019. If successful, the grant and the matching fund from partners will be used to implement the project.

What's the mechanism for the matching funding?

Cash matching funds should be on ratio 1:1 with the grant from the British Council. The matching fund is transferred to the British Council in Vietnam who then distributes the total funding in instalments to participating HEIs in accordance with the partnership agreement. Please refer to section 6 in the [Guidelines for applicants](#).

Could the matching fund be shared by UK and Vietnam HEIs?

Yes, the matching fund can be contributed by both UK and Vietnam HEIs or either UK or Vietnam HEIs depending on mutual agreement between the partners.

What are eligible and ineligible costs?

Please refer to section 6.1 and 6.2 in the [Guidelines for applicants](#).

How the seed funding can support new collaborative provision between UK and Vietnamese institutions, especially joint delivery

The seed funding is to enable initial discussions between UK and Vietnam HEIs in an area of priority of the call, and in this case a joint delivery programme. This may include, but not limited to, initial workshops on joint delivery programmes and quality assurance in transnational education (TNE), mutual visits for discussion, involvement of QA bodies, research on market potential, etc. The project is expected to be self-sustained after that.

Is it a multiple year application but funding is limited to one year only?

We encourage a multiple year and partner application. As there are only 6 months within this year, the applicants should work out the closest funding requirement in this year and proposed funding requirement for next year. Successful implementation of this year will be considered for continued funding next year.

3. Looking for partners

How to find UK/Vietnamese partners?

If you have already identified UK/Vietnamese partners to deliver the project with you, it's great. Otherwise, the British Council can help by grouping the UK and Vietnamese HEIs with similar interests in the first week of July, and introduce them with each other for further discussion.