

## TRANSFORM: Student-centred learning in Higher Education

### 1. Background

The British Council in Sri Lanka has started implementation of a major education programme known as TRANSFORM, in collaboration with the Government of Sri Lanka (GoSL). The general principles of the MoU commit to collaboration not just on teacher educator development but also on systemic reform. The following framework has been developed to provide structure to the programme.

<b>WHAT IS TRANSFORM?</b>				
<i>Providing access to learning opportunities through a fit for purpose and relevant education system, allows young people to contribute to the economic and social development of Sri Lanka while achieving their potential and meeting their personal aspirations</i>				
<b>OUTCOMES</b>				
RESULTS AREA 1: PROFESSIONALISATION  (Individual capacity building and institutional strengthening)	RESULTS AREA 2: QUALITY ASSURANCE  (Systemic reform)	RESULTS AREA 3: TRANSITIONS	RESULTS AREA 4: RESEARCH, EVALUATION AND LEARNING	RESULTS AREA 5: STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS
Activity 1.1 Pedagogical approaches	Activity 2.1 Occupational standards for teachers	Activity 3.1 Careers guidance	Activity 4.1 Baseline research	Activities 5.1 Brand and identity; PR
Activity 1.2 Language competence	Activity 2.2 career progression pathways	Activity 3.2 Enterprise	Activity 4.2 M+E strategy	Activity 5.2 Advocacy
Activity 1.3 Core skills	Activity 2.3 CPD system	Activity 3.2 Skills development	Activity 4.3 Research, position papers, policy engagement, publications	Activity 5.3 Social marketing campaigns (KAB)
Activity 1.4 Leadership development	Activity 2.4 NQF	Activity 3.3 Skills/English for employability	Activity 4.4 Learning strategy/feedba	Activity 5.4 Key account management



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Activity 1.5	Activity 2.5			
Mentoring	Inspection			

The work on Results Area 1: Professionalisation began in November 2017 under the Improving Teacher Education in Sri Lanka (iTESL) sub-project and in collaboration with the Ministry of Education. This will support the development of professional skills of teacher educators for English, in the first instance, moving to other subjects (maths, science and IT) as the project progresses. The delivery model follows a cascade approach: capacity building of a cadre of Master Trainers by British Council's international consultants, followed by roll out by Master Trainers to teacher educators in National Colleges of Education, supported by mentoring. The content will focus on pedagogy and the introduction into the curriculum of core skills. A further sub-project focuses specifically on professional skills and language proficiency of English teachers, Teacher Education for English (TEE). The Professionalisation results area is complemented by our own in-house teacher development. and on-line support via smaller projects. Systemic reform is a core component of the TRANSFORM programme and is contained in the Memorandum of Understanding. While to date the programme has focused on the professionalisation strand through starting implementation of a secondary teacher educator project, work is underway to draw attention back to the systemic components. The basic principles of our approach to systemic reform are:

- our engagement needs to be evidence based
- we use international benchmarking of good practice
- we utilise British Council expertise in developing standards and CPD frameworks for teachers
- we build on current and previous work carried out by or through development partners
- all interventions address GoSL priorities and align to policy.

## 2. Overall objective of project

To provide technical expertise, capacity building and professional insight for state higher education institutes in introducing a student-centred learning environment.

## 3. Specific Objectives:

- Support young people's acquisition of transferable knowledge and skills relevant to the external labour market by fostering student-centred learning approaches.
- Support the Government's plans of providing opportunities for teachers to use modern teaching techniques and equip students with competencies they require.



#### **4. Outcomes**

- The teaching cadre in Sri Lankan state higher education institutes have enhanced professional skills and actively use learner-centred methodologies
  - Employment relevant skills and competencies are embedded into the curricula
  - Standards of education and teaching methods are enhanced.
- UK is perceived as a global education leader in modern educational practices and a strategic partner of choice to support wider education reform in the Sri Lankan higher education sector.

#### **5. Primary audiences**

- Ministry of Higher Education of Sri Lanka
- University Grants Commission of Sri Lanka
- 15 State universities

#### **6. Scope of the project/Terms of Reference**

The successful UK delivery partner will be expected to;

- Carry out a baseline research focussing on current learner-centred teaching methodologies
- Review and adapt British Council's existing materials on enhancing student engagement
- Design and deliver master trainer training programme for academics from state universities to introduce learner-centred approaches in their teaching.
- Engage in Quality Assurance of roll out of cascade training
- Provide final evaluation report

#### **7. Timeframe for the project**

August 2018 – December 2018

#### **8. Guidelines for applicants**

##### **8.1 Selection criteria**

##### **Essential**

- Expertise in developing frameworks and approaches for quality improvement or standards in higher education
- Possess sufficient capacity and expertise within the organisation to deliver the project

##### **Desirable**

- Demonstrate experience in international partnership work (preferably in South Asia)



## **8.2 Submitting your proposal**

UK higher education institutes and bodies that meet the above requirements are requested to submit their proposals focussing on the Terms of Reference given above by **17.00 GMT on Monday 3 September 2018**.

Proposals should be sent electronically to [Nishika.Hassim@britishcouncil.org](mailto:Nishika.Hassim@britishcouncil.org)

## **8.3 Timings and communications**

You will receive an email acknowledging receipt of your proposal within one week of it being received by the British Council project team.

You will be informed of the outcome of your proposal within three weeks of the application deadline.

## **8.4 Further information and clarifications**

For any further information or clarifications please contact Nishika Hassim – Manager Higher Education and International Education Services at [Nishika.Hassim@britishcouncil.org](mailto:Nishika.Hassim@britishcouncil.org)

