

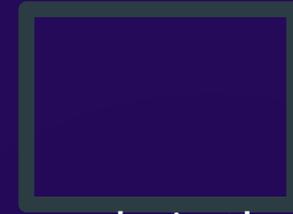
International Science Partnerships Fund

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# Research Collaborations (Global)

14 February 2024

# About the British Council



The British Council builds connections, understanding and trust between people in the UK and other countries through arts and culture, education and the English language.



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# Agenda

Welcome

Introduction to ISPF

Eligibility Requirements and Application Process

Official Development Assistance – Ensuring your project is eligible

Writing a Gender Statement – Why and How

Closing Remarks and Next Steps

# ISPF UK Partner Organisations



Department for  
Science, Innovation  
& Technology



# ISPF Themes

## **Healthy People, Animals & Plants**

*“Researching and  
Innovating to ensure  
secure and healthy  
populations”*

- Biosecurity & Pathogen Detection
- Global Health & Pandemics
- Genomics & Digital health
- AMR
- Social determinants of health

## **Resilient Planet**

*Leading the green  
industrial revolution  
to protect the planet”*

- Clean energy
- Extreme weather and climate
- Agritech
- Environmental resilience

## **Transforming Technology**

*Developing  
responsible  
technologies to secure  
our place in  
tomorrow’s world”*

- AI
- Quantum
- Engineering biology
- Semiconductors
- Future telecommunications

## **Tomorrow’s Talent**

*“Nurturing talent to  
drive inclusion,  
research and  
innovation”*

- Research capacity
- Research systems
- Research pipeline

# Introduction to ISPF



Department for  
Science, Innovation,  
& Technology

Sign up to the ISPF e-newsletter to receive regular news, updates, and opportunities by emailing

**[ISPFenquiries@odamanagement.org](mailto:ISPFenquiries@odamanagement.org)**

with the subject 'newsletter'.

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# Eligibility Requirements and Application Process

British Council and ISPF

Overview of Funding Opportunity

Review of the Guidance for Applicants

Budget

Application Questions

Submission Process

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# Review of Guidance for Applicants Eligibility - Organisations

## UK applicants

A higher education institution (all UK higher education institutions are eligible).

A not-for-profit research organisation with the capacity to undertake high-quality research.

A Catapult Centre

## International Partner

A higher education Institution

A not-for-profit research organisation with capacity to undertake high-quality research

Organisations affiliated to higher education institutions in the UK or any other country and based in the partner country/territory, (e.g. an international campus) are **not eligible** for ISPF Fund awarded grants.

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# Review of Guidance for Applicants Eligibility - Project Leader

## UK Applicants

Leading or Established Researcher

Permanent employee (not Emeritus or Honorary Professor)

May only submit one application

## International Partner

Leading or Established Researcher

May only act as Project Leader in one application

Egypt, Indonesia, Turkey and Malaysia have additional requirements

For Profit Organisations may join as Associate Partners, but are only eligible to receive ISPF **UK funding** for travel and subsistence

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# Budget available

## UK Applicant

£80,000 (FEC £100,000)

## International Partner

### **Egypt:**

Additional £100,000 available from STDF

### **Malaysia :**

Additional £80,00 available from Academy of Medical Sciences

All other countries will be funded through the UK budget

# Budget - Eligibility UK Funding

## Eligible Costs

Staff Costs

Travel and subsistence costs

Directly Incurred Costs

Estates

Indirect Costs

Additional Funding for Inclusion

## Ineligible Costs

Equipment over £10,000

Standard office equipment (laptops)

Studentships

Dissemination costs

Patent costs

Entertainment costs



**Directly Incurred costs:** These are explicitly identifiable as arising from the conduct of a project, are charged as the cash value actually spent and are supported by an audit record.



**Indirect costs** are ones which cover the costs of the Research Organisation's management and administrative services

# The Budget Worksheet

[https://opportunities-insight.britishcouncil.org/sites/siem/files/field/file/news/ISPF%20Research%20Collaobrations%20ODA%20Budget%20Form\\_3.xlsx](https://opportunities-insight.britishcouncil.org/sites/siem/files/field/file/news/ISPF%20Research%20Collaobrations%20ODA%20Budget%20Form_3.xlsx)



Summary fund heading	Fund heading	UK Full Economic Cost	UK ISPF contribution / Grant Requested	ISPF contribution	Egypt and Malaysia (Full Economic Cost)	For UK amounts, complete spreadsheet:	For Egypt and Malaysia amounts, complete spreadsheet
DIRECTLY INCURRED	Staff	0.00	0.00	80%	0.00	<a href="#">UK Staff</a>	<a href="#">Partner Country Staff</a>
	Travel & Subsistence	0.00	0.00	80%	0.00	<a href="#">UK Travel and Subsistence</a>	<a href="#">Partner Country Travel and Subsistence</a>
	Other Costs	0.00	0.00	80%	0.00	<a href="#">UK Other Directly Incurred Costs</a>	<a href="#">Partner Country Other DI Costs</a>
	<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>		<b>0.00</b>		
DIRECTLY ALLOCATED	Investigators	0.00	0.00	80%	0.00	<a href="#">UK Investigators</a>	<a href="#">Partner country investigators</a>
	Facilities Cos	0.00	0.00	80%	0.00	<a href="#">UK Facilities</a>	<a href="#">Partner Country Facilities</a>
	Other Directly Allocated	0.00	0.00	80%	0.00	<a href="#">UK Other Directly Allocated Costs (including Animal Costs)</a>	<a href="#">Partner Other Directly Allocated Costs (including Animal Costs)</a>
	<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>		<b>0.00</b>		
INDIRECT COSTS	Indirect Costs		0.00	80%	0.00	<a href="#">UK Indirect Cost</a>	<a href="#">Partner Country Indirect Costs</a>
EXCEPTIONS	Travel & Subsistence	0.00	0.00	100%	0.00	Exceptional costs must be discussed prior to application. E-mail: <a href="mailto:UK-ISPF@britishcouncil.org">UK-ISPF@britishcouncil.org</a>	
	Other Costs	0.00	0.00	100%	0.00		
	<b>Sub-total</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>		<b>0.00</b>		

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# Completing the Budget Worksheet

- ▶ Complete with the UK Applicant
- ▶ Add information using the tabs at the bottom of the worksheet for Partner Country ( hyperlinks on first page in blue)
- ▶ Directly incurred staff: Technicians; Research Associates - people with fixed time allocated to the project
- ▶ Directly allocated staff: Project Leader
- ▶ Other directly allocated costs: Departmental support staff (admin); access to major research facilities
- ▶ Indirect Costs / Estates: Overheads - In the UK these are calculated with an approved Transparent Approach to Costing (TRAC) methodology
- ▶ Exceptions for Inclusion: To allow people to participate in the project who might not ordinarily be able to - contact [UK-ISPF@britishcouncil.org](mailto:UK-ISPF@britishcouncil.org)

# Application Questions

- ▶ Proposal Abstract

No more than 2000 characters (including space)

In non-scientific language

- ▶ The Research Project

Objectives, Deliverables, Details of the research, Stakeholders, Timetable

Demonstrate that you r understanding of the topic of your project

- ▶ The Collaboration

Why Roles/Responsibilities, Value of participation and benefit to organisation

- ▶ Sustainability and Capacity Strengthening

What next? How will the project support ECRs, technicians, etc in partner?

# Application Questions (1)

- ▶ Research Governance and Ethics

Demonstrate that you understand the issues involved in your research

Has this research gone through or will it need to go through ethics approval

- ▶ Trusted Research

Establishing the relationship between researchers

Ensuring data is secure

- ▶ Environmental Impact Statement

Research that won't result in short or long-term harm to the climate or the environment.

How have negative impacts been mitigated

# Application Questions (2)

- ▶ Safeguarding

Protecting vulnerable adults (you may not realise someone is a vulnerable adult)

Recognising the risks of travel and international exchanges

- ▶ Intellectual Property

Demonstrate that you and your partner share an understanding of what IP will be created in your project

Consider what will be made available through Open Access

# Submission

- ▶ Application questions to be completed and submitted via the portal
- ▶ You are able to save and continue but advised to use the Word Version of application form on Opportunities website to prepare
- ▶ Once submitted you will **not** be able to make changes
- ▶ You should receive an automatic e-mail when you have submitted with a PDF
- ▶ This PDF will contain your Unique reference number which you should use when communicating to the ISPF team.



# Supporting documents

- ▶ The following are the required supporting documents to be sent as part of the application process:. They must be saved in the format:  
(Name of document ) (UK Project Leader Surname) (Name of Country)  
eg: Partner Project Leader CV; Smith; Egypt
- ▶ These are the names that must be used:
  - UK Project Leader CV
  - Partner Project Leader CV
  - UK Letter of Support
  - Partner Letter of Support
  - Budget Sheet
  - Gantt Chart
  - Risk Assessment for Travel (if applicable)
  - Associate Partners Letter of Support (if applicable)
- ▶ Projects will be considered ineligible if files are missing
- ▶ **ONLY ONE E-MAIL WILL BE ACCEDPTED AS PART OF THE SUBMISSION**
- ▶ **Send to [UK-ISPF@britishcouncil.org](mailto:UK-ISPF@britishcouncil.org) by 12 March at noon UK time.**

# Application Questions (3)

- ▶ Official Development Assistance (ODA)

Plausible route to impact on the economic development and social welfare of the partner country/territory

- ▶ Gender Equality

How you have taken meaningful yet proportionate consideration as to how the project will contribute to reducing gender inequalities

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# Official Development Assistance (ODA)

- ▶ To be counted as ODA, all activities (research or otherwise) must qualify under rules set down by the OECD.
- ▶ To be ODA-eligible, the OECD states that research projects should be *directly and primarily related to the problems of developing countries*.
- ▶ We will have questions in the application about ODA impact and relevance, usually projected over a medium-term timeframe to ensure this is applicable to all projects.
- ▶ Please consider the economic development and social welfare impact of your work, including how it is conducted as well as the outputs and potential outcomes.
- ▶ Including relevant Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is encouraged and can help frame ODA relevance.
- ▶ ODA funding cannot be used for military, security, or dual use projects.

# Legal and normative framework

In 2014, the UK parliament amended the International Development Act 2002 to introduce the promotion of gender equality in the provision of Official Development Assistance (ODA). The International Development (Gender Equality) Act 2014 states:

“the desirability of providing development assistance that is likely to contribute to reducing poverty in a way which is likely to contribute to reducing inequality between persons of different gender.” Gender Equality Act 2014,  
<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2014/9/introduction/enacted>

The British Council ensures that all projects funded through ODA are compliant with the International Development Act.

# No Sustainable Development without Gender Equality



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For queries on usage, contact: [dpicampaigns@un.org](mailto:dpicampaigns@un.org)

# Examples of Gender Considerations in Research and Innovation

Climate Change and community adaptation (Africa): Research shows that climate change tends to exacerbate existing gender inequalities and that this can lead to women facing larger negative impacts than men. Understanding the risks and impacts of climate change on people of different gender is therefore key in achieving effective community adaption. For example, it is important to ensure that women can participate in all decision making related to climate change at all levels to build effective policies and practices. (Source: *Adaptation and beyond. Lessons learnt from the Community Based Adaptation in Africa (CBAA)*: <https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/57a08adf40f0b6497400080a/Adaptationandbeyond04small.pdf>)

Urban Planning: Care-related commutes addressing the needs of others, or performing more general household-related duties, are still predominantly undertaken by women. Moreover, they differ significantly in nature from journeys that urban transport is often designed around, such as commuting to work.

Agriculture (Fishing): Gender-related cultural and religious expectations prohibit women in rural Bangladesh from harvesting fish even from their own ponds. Such tasks are seen as the responsibility of men. Women are also reluctant to enter ponds because of the risk of drowning. To support women's access to fishing, gill nets were introduced which were smaller in size, did not require them to step into the pond, did not require support from men, and was also something they could make at home – thus contributing to food security for both men and women.

Example 2 and 3: Schiebinger, L., Klinge, I., Sánchez de Madariaga, I., Paik, H. Y., Schraudner, M., and Stefanick, M. (Eds.) (2011-2021). *Gendered Innovations in Science, Health & Medicine, Engineering and Environment*. [www.britishcouncil.org](http://www.britishcouncil.org)

# Examples of Gender Considerations in Research and Innovation

**Assistive Technology:** While elderly women and men often have similar needs, understanding how sex and gender interact to impact aging can assist engineers in developing technologies that best fit user needs. Studies show that sex and gender interact to impact health in old age.

**Water infrastructure:** Because water procurement is often women's work in Sub-Saharan Africa, many women have detailed knowledge of soils and their water yields. This knowledge is vital to civil engineering and development projects—for instance, in determining where to place wells and water taps.

**Artificial Intelligence Technology:** Machine learning algorithms could result in and/or amplify existing gender bias if the data on which the models were trained discriminates against one gender. An example is an automated resume screening system that discriminates against women because the training data was collected from the resumes of all male employees.

*Wood, Tracy, Dangers of AI-based resume screening, 3 Jul 2023, [LinkedIn](#)*

# Gender Equality Statements (GES)

- ▶ All applicants are expected to submit a GES as part of their grant application.
  - Applicants must outline how they have taken *meaningful yet proportionate* consideration as to how their proposed project will contribute to reducing gender inequalities, as required under the International Development (Gender Equality) Act 2014.
  - Proportionate and meaningful means that applicants should think of gender and potential gender issues in a way which corresponds in *size, scale* and *impact* of their project. Their answers should have meaning and be serious, important and/or worthwhile.
  - The GES should be about the project specifically – the outputs and outcomes, the make-up of the project team, participants, stakeholders and beneficiaries of the project, and the processes followed throughout the research programme.
  - Applicants will have to address each criterion explained in the next slide individually on the application form.
  - The British Council reserves the right to reject a proposal where the GES has not been sufficiently considered.

# Five Criteria

- ▶ Applicants are required to address the following five criteria:
  1. 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 research and innovation.
  2. The expected impact of the project (benefits and losses) on people of different genders, both throughout the project and beyond.
  3. 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.
  4. How will any risks and unintended negative consequences on gender equality be avoided or mitigated against, and monitored?
  5. Are there any relevant outcomes and outputs being measured, with data disaggregated by gender and other characteristics (where disclosed)?

# Overview of Research Collaboration

Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam, Egypt, Kenya, Turkey

- initiate new research and innovation collaborations between academic groups, departments, and institutions
- develop existing collaborations at group, departmental, and institutional level
- encourage these collaborations to work with non-academic organisations and individuals to support the exchange of research and innovation expertise and the translation of research knowledge into tangible benefits

Small scale seed funding for collaborations between the UK and the participating ISPF countries/territories



**Resilient planet** - leading the green industrial revolution to protect the planet.



**Healthy people, animals, and plants** - researching and innovating for secure and healthy populations.



**Transformative technologies** - developing responsible technologies to secure our place in tomorrow's world.



**Tomorrow's talent** - nurturing talent to drive inclusion, research and innovation.



# Sending Supporting documents

- ▶ Sent by Email to [UK-ISPF@britishcouncil.org](mailto:UK-ISPF@britishcouncil.org)
- ▶ Subject line must read:  
Research Collaborations (Global); (Surname of UK Project Leader); (International Partner Country)  
eg: Research Collaborations (Global); Smith; Egypt
- ▶ Files must be clearly named and include surname of UK Project Leader and name of International Partner Country using the document titles described
- ▶ By the deadline of 12 March 2024; noon UK time.

If there any problems submitting you MUST notify the UK team before the deadline.

# Thank you! Diolch yn Fawr!

Questions will be collected and shared after the webinar

We will make a recording available to you and those registered for the session

# Contact us



[UK-ISPF@britishcouncil.org](mailto:UK-ISPF@britishcouncil.org)



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More information  
at  
<http://tinyurl.com/bder5zz8>

