



Ministry of Innovation,
Science & Technology



Department for
Science, Innovation
& Technology

UK/Israel Research Collaboration under the International Science Partnerships Fund (ISPF)

Grant Applicant Guidelines

Call opens:

31 July 2024

Call closes:

30 September 2024

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Call for Proposals Summary

<p>Priority research themes</p>	<p>1. Transformative Technologies – developing responsible technologies to secure our place in tomorrow’s world:</p> <p>Specific topics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I. Quantum technologies II. Artificial Intelligence in drug discovery III. Food-tech: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Alternative Proteins b. Advanced Food Packaging (sensors and materials) <p>2. Tomorrow’s Talent – nurturing talent to drive inclusion, research and innovation relevant to the specific topics mentioned above</p>
<p>Available funding</p>	<p>Applicants may apply for up to £200,000 for the whole project. Each lead applicant may apply for a budget of up to £100,000 (equivalent to 460,000 NIS based on the conversion rate of 4.6 NIS/ 1 GBP).</p> <p>The British Council will meet 80% of the Full Economic Cost (FEC) of the UK side. Research Organisations of successful applications are expected to support the remaining 20%.</p>
<p>Project duration</p>	<p>3 years</p>
<p>Deadline for applications</p>	<p>Monday 30 September 2024, 5pm GMT</p>
<p>Link to application form</p>	<p>online application form.</p>

1. Background

1.1 Overview of the funding opportunity

The funding opportunity is supported by a partnership between the UK Department for Science, Innovation and Technology (DSIT) and the Ministry of Innovation, Science and Technology in Israel (MOST) and delivered by the British Council in partnership with MOST as part of the International Science Partnerships Fund (ISPF). The programme supports the UK and Israeli science and innovation sectors by providing early stage grants for collaborative research projects. The programme will fund both new and existing connections at group, departmental, and institutional level in both countries, placing particular emphasis on the development opportunities of early career researchers.

1.2 ISPF UK/Israel priority themes

The programme invites collaborative proposals that contribute to both of the following core themes and concentrate on applied research:

1. Transformative Technologies – developing responsible technologies to secure our place in tomorrow's world:

Specific topics:

- i. Quantum technologies
 - ii. Artificial Intelligence in drug discovery
 - iii. Food-tech:
 - a) Alternative Proteins
 - b) Advanced Food Packaging (sensors and materials)
2. Tomorrow's Talent – nurturing talent to drive inclusion, research and innovation relevant to the specific topics mentioned above

The ISPF UK/Israel joint research collaboration programme provides early stage funding within the projects that:

- Initiate new or develop existing research and innovation collaborations between academic groups, departments and institutions.
- Encourage these collaborations to support the exchange of research and innovation expertise and the translation of research knowledge into tangible benefits.
- Support skills and development for early career researchers

When designing your proposal, you should consider how best to involve early career researchers to promote their professional development.

1.3 The International Science Partnerships Fund - overview

The ISPF is designed to enable potential and foster prosperity. It puts research and innovation at the heart of international relationships, supporting UK researchers and innovators to work with peers around the world on the major themes of our time. It is managed by the UK Department for Science, Innovation and Technology and delivered by a consortium of the UK's leading research and innovation bodies including British Academy, British Council, Met Office, National Physical Laboratory, Royal Academy of Engineering, Royal Society, UK Research and Innovation, UK Atomic Energy Authority and Universities UK International. For more information:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/international-science-partnerships-fund-ispf/international-science-partnerships-fund-ispf>

2. Eligibility criteria

Proposals must fulfil the following criteria to be eligible for funding under this call. Proposals not meeting these preconditions will be automatically rejected and will not be passed onto the academic selection panel for review and evaluation:

- Each proposal must have one Principal Applicant from the UK **and** one Principal Applicant from Israel. If the Principal Applicant from either the UK or Israel does not meet all of the eligibility requirements, the proposal will not be passed onto the academic selection panel for review and evaluation on either side.
- Both Principal Applicants' institutions (the 'Lead Institutions') must have the capacity to administer the grant.
- Individual departments within a single institution can make multiple applications per call provided that the proposed activities are clearly different.
- Principal Applicants may only submit one proposal for this Call.
- Both Principal Applicants and associated researchers must be affiliated with the research or academic institution that meets the eligibility requirements and are officially recognised by both countries¹ and the Principal Applicants themselves must meet the relevant eligibility requirements, as follows:

In the UK:

- Principal Applicants must be a Leading Researcher¹ or Established Researcher³ in a not-for-profit higher education institution with the capacity to undertake high-quality research.
- Principal Applicants must be permanent employees of one of the following:
 - A UK higher education institution (all UK higher education institutions are eligible).
 - A not-for-profit research organisation with the capacity to undertake high-quality research.
 - Emeritus and Honorary Professors may not apply as Principal Applicants in the UK.

To support the translation of research and innovation into benefit, UK Principal Applicants may include in their proposals Associated Partners affiliated with:

- Other research or higher education institutions
- Not for-profit organisations (including NGOs)

Eligibility checks will be applied to all proposals on receipt. Proposals which are not led by a recognised not-for-profit higher education institution or a publicly funded research organisation will be rejected during these checks. Please see Appendix 1 for a full list of eligibility criteria.

For-profit organisations and not-for-profit organisations can participate in but are usually **not** eligible to apply for Research Collaboration grants (unless specified otherwise in Appendix 1). Furthermore, **for-profit organisations are not eligible to receive any ISPF grant funds except to cover travel associated costs.**

UK applicants should see the list of eligible UK institutions attached with the grant call documents on the website if they have queries about their eligibility.

In Israel:

- The Israeli Principal Applicant must be affiliated with an academic institution or a research institute ("Affiliated Institution") or be professors emeritus who continue working on research in affiliation with the Affiliated Institution. An Affiliated Institution is determined as follows:
 - An accredited institution of higher education in Israel, according to the Council for Higher Education Act, 1958. or

1 For the UK this represents only institutions in geographic areas under the administration of the State of Israel before 5 June 1967. This position should not be construed as prejudicing Israel's principled position on this matter. Accordingly, the participants accept that the application of this understanding is without prejudice to the status of those areas.

- A Research Institute, which is a non-profit organisation, a government company or a governmental unit.
- For the purposes of this Call a "research institute" means an institute whose main activity is the advancement of cutting-edge scientific knowledge, which possesses appropriate infrastructure and equipment, and which employs researchers who, inter alia, publish articles related to their research in leading scientific journals and who present their research at international symposia.

Special eligibility provisions for Israeli Researchers:

- In compliance with the MOST's Procedures Regarding Scientific Projects Funded by MOST ("MOST Regulations") an Israeli Applicant that has or will have an active grant from any MOST's international cooperation programmes whose funding will be concurrent to the funding of this programme, is not eligible to apply. No parallel funding is allowed in the international cooperation programme. A researcher who is not eligible to submit a proposal as Principal Investigator (PI) due to an active grant may submit one additional proposal in the international cooperation program as Associated-PI, if they do not have an active grant in the international cooperation programme in which they act as Associated-PI.
- A researcher who has submitted a proposal for any MOST international cooperation call for proposals in the calendar year of 2025, may not submit another proposal for any other MOST international cooperation call for proposals in 2025.
- Researchers should be advised that after a proposal has been submitted, the status of the members of the research team as Principal Investigator-PI and/ or Associated-PI may not be changed for the purpose of compliance with the eligibility requirements listed above. It will be clarified that the aforementioned limitations regarding changing the status of the members of the research team include the addition of a PI and/ or Associated-PI who, at the time of submission, was defined as an external consultant or were not listed in the proposal and/or research group.
- Israeli applicants should contact the Ministry for Innovation, Science and Technology (MOST) on the contact details listed below for further information.

3. Level of funding and duration of projects

It is the intention of the Parties to fund research proposals selected hereunder for a term of three-years and contracts will be signed accordingly. However, funding shall be approved annually, with the funding for each consecutive year to be approved in accordance with the reporting provisions of the research contracts and protocols in each country.

The Parties intend to support up to nine joint projects. The final number of projects to be funded will be determined based on such factors as merits of the proposals upon scientific evaluation and budgetary considerations.

The total maximum budget for each project is £200,000 for the three year project period.

In the UK, Principal Applicants may budget for up to £100,000, out of which the British Council will meet 80% of the FEC. Research Organisations of successful applications are expected to support the remaining 20%.

In Israel, Principal Applicants may apply for £100,000 (equivalent to 460,000 NIS based on the conversion rate of 4.6 NIS/ 1 GBP)

Funding for the approved projects in Israel depends on the availability of funds and the approval of the State Budget.

In accordance, research projects should be planned on a three-year basis beginning approximately in the second quarter of 2025. Contracts will be signed accordingly in each country.

Funds will be disbursed directly to the Lead Institutions in the UK and Israel (i.e. the Principal Applicants' institutions), according to the approved final budget. Applicants may be asked to adjust their budget if their request does not fit within funding guidelines.

3.1 Funding in the UK:

Proposals should be submitted with figures of 100% FEC. For non-profit organisations and Research Institutions, these are the eligible costs at 80% FEC:

- Staff costs (including directly incurred and directly allocated posts).
- Other research costs (including consumables). Please note that no single items over £10,000 may be included.
- Travel and subsistence for exchange/mobility activities (including cost of workshops, meetings etc).
- Estates and indirect costs.

Please complete the budget form attached to this call. You must also complete a summary on the online application form with the totals from your budget spreadsheet and a brief justification for the amounts applied for. Where you do not provide explanation for an item that requires justification, or include an ineligible cost, it may be cut from any grant made.

Unless stated otherwise, an advance payment of 80% of the ISPF Fund grant will be made on signature of the grant agreement to the UK institution, followed by two payments of 10%, dependent on approval of reports by the British Council and MOST.

Lead Institutions may transfer funding to Associated Partners for activities which support the objectives of the collaboration and the overall Programme². Any costs of Associated Partner contributions should be included in the proposed budget. As detailed above, for-profit organisations are not eligible to receive any grant funds except to cover travel associated costs.

The following sections detail the costs that can and cannot be included in your budget request.

3.1.1 Eligible costs For UK Applicants

The ISPF UK/Israel research collaboration grants are intended to contribute to the direct costs of establishing and operating your collaboration, (i.e. costs directly related to implementing activities contained in the proposal). Please contact us on ISPF_UK-Israel@britishcouncil.org if you are in doubt over which costs the Researcher Collaborations Programme can cover.

Directly allocated costs

This includes the resources used by a project that are shared by other activities. They are charged to projects on the basis of estimates rather than actual costs and do not represent actual costs on a project-by-project basis.

Directly incurred costs

² Note that for-profit organisations are only eligible to receive funds to cover travel-associated 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.

Staff costs

Directly allocated staff are those who will be working directly on the project, but whose involvement on the grant can only be based on an estimate of the time the work will take (e.g. investigators). Directly incurred staff are those whose time on the project is actual, auditable, and verifiable (e.g. researchers and technicians' salaries, consultancy fees, superannuation, and national insurance payments).

Travel and subsistence costs

To reduce the impact of the project on the climate and environment, all travel should be essential to creating the outcomes of the project and should be justified in the application form. Travel (economy class) and subsistence costs to the UK and Israel are eligible.

Visa fees and medical insurance for travel essential to the collaboration are eligible. Costs of meetings, training events and seminars integral to the collaboration can also be included.

Other directly incurred costs

Other research costs directly relating to the project include specified consumables, equipment costing less than £10,000, recruitment and advertising costs to be incurred by the UK Research Organisation.

Other directly allocated costs

Support staff salaries, a share of the costs of departmental support staff, and the costs of access to major research facilities.

Estates (non-staff direct costs)

Facility related costs of conducting the research including utilities, rates, rents, maintenance, insurance, infrastructure costs, facilities management, cleaning, security, and depreciation of equipment.

Indirect costs

A contribution towards the cost of all other overheads for central service departments such as Finance, Human Resources, Legal and Registry.

The following items are also covered by estates and indirect costs:

- Overheads
- Communication costs, mobile phone rental, purchase, and roaming charges
- Purchase or rental of standard office equipment (except specialist equipment essential to the research)
- IT hardware – laptops, personal computers, tablets, smart phones, Mac workstations, computer parts and peripherals.
- Office software.

- Desks, chairs, filing cabinets, photocopiers, printers, fax machines.

Estates and indirect costs are specific to each UK research organisation, and do not require justification. UK research organisations that have implemented the TRAC costing methodology and have passed the Quality Assurance process should apply their own estate and indirect costs. Non-research organisations that are not required to implement TRAC must have a robust costing methodology in place that has been validated to apply their own estates and indirect cost rates. The standard default rates should be used where research organisations have not yet developed their own rates.

Additional Funding for Inclusion (Exceptions)

The British Council is committed to equal opportunities and diversity and will consider, on a case-by-case basis, requests for support to encourage underrepresented groups to engage in ISPF activity, so long as sufficient justification is provided.

Applicants can request a grant contribution of up to a total of £2,000 per proposal, upon request for tackling barriers to diversity and inclusion. Examples of costs that can be covered include but are not limited to additional childcare costs and measures to support the participation of researchers and team members with disabilities. Such requests should be clearly marked in the budget form under Exceptions and should be supported by justifications submitted separately by email to: ISPF_UK-Israel@britishcouncil.org.

3.1.2 Ineligible costs for UK Applicants:

UK/Israel ISPF Research Collaboration grants **cannot cover:**

- Equipment costs - individual items costing £10,000 or more including VAT (Value Added Tax) are not eligible under this call. Costs for standard office equipment, communication costs and other overheads should be covered by Estates and Indirect Costs.
- Costs associated with Masters and PhD studentships are not eligible under this call, including: costs related to writing up, promoting, or disseminating previous research.
- Patents costs.
- Entertainment costs such as:
 - Gifts
 - Alcohol
 - Restaurant bills or hospitality costs for personnel not directly participating in the project
 - Excessive restaurant costs
 - Excessive taxi fares.

- Exceptional Costs:

Except for costs to support inclusion as detailed in section 3.1.1, no other exceptional costs will be approved.

Please contact ISPF_UK-Israel@britishcouncil.org if you are in doubt which costs the ISPF UK/IL Research Collaboration Programme can and cannot cover.

3.2 Funding in Israel:

Please see full funding provisions on MOST Procedures Regarding Scientific Projects Funded by MOST ("MOST Regulations"). All activities and funding pursuant to this Call must be in accordance with MOST Regulations unless otherwise specified.

3.2.1 Eligible costs for Israeli Applicants

MOST will cover 100% of the documented and eligible costs of the research up to the amount of the approved budget, in accordance with the project proposal, subject to the terms and conditions as specified below and the terms of the standard MOST Procedures Regarding Scientific Projects Funded by MOST" and the "MOST Standard Contract for Scientific Projects".

Funding provided by this Call may be assigned to costs related to support of the collaboration activities, such as costs incurred by the approved research projects (manpower, disposables, analytical services, publication costs, etc.) and costs related to the bilateral nature of the project (travel expenses of the researchers, scientific meetings, etc.). In any case, each budget item or expenditure for which reimbursement is requested must conform to the respective national rules of each applicant.

Participating researchers are encouraged to plan visits to their counterparts' institutions and labs, given that such visits are an integral part of the research collaboration. International travel costs and in-country living expenses of visiting scientists, including accommodation, per diem and any other relevant expenses for each visiting scientist, should be included in their project's budget. In this regard, when preparing the budget for each team, please note that each side funds their own travel expenses and should be budgeted accordingly. Funding provided under this Call may only be used for visits taking place in UK or Israel; visits to third countries are not eligible for financing by project funds.

Additional Information

Scientific information on:

Dr Iris Eisenberg, Director of Life Sciences Research on IrisE@most.gov.il

Representative of the Division of International Division:

Ms Claire Levaton, Head of International Scientific Relations Department with France, Italy, UK, Canada & Western North Europe on claire@most.gov.il

4. Project duration

The maximum duration of the proposed collaboration is **36** months (3 years). Projects are expected to commence on the second quarter of 2025 (April to June) and all funded activity must be completed by June 2028. Contracts will be signed accordingly in each country.

5. Gender Equality Statement

The British Council aims to support research of the highest quality which will lead to lasting impact. We believe that inclusive research projects are the most likely to produce results which have greater relevance to society. The Gender Equality Statement will demonstrate that applicants have embedded fairness into the way they address the research question and included a wide set of viewpoints in a research team which will contribute to their ability to solve problems.

Any application which states that a Gender Equality Statement is not applicable, will be ineligible for funding.

6. Safeguarding

The British Council condemns all forms of harm and abuse, including bullying and harassment. We take a zero-tolerance approach to harm and abuse to any individual employed through or associated with our programmes in all contexts; whether in humanitarian or fragile and conflict-affected settings, in other field contexts, or within the international or UK research and development community which we fund. We expect organisations to promote the highest standards in organisational culture and have in place the systems and procedures required to prevent and tackle all incidents of harm and abuse. Applications should detail how they will identify and manage safeguarding risks within their projects.

A draft completed risk assessment for travel is required as part of the application process to demonstrate an understanding of the risks involved in travelling to and from the partner country, whether for meetings or for field work.

UK institutions will be expected to have in place the following robust policies and procedures:

- Safeguarding and Whistleblowing Policy
- Incident reporting procedure, which includes safe reporting.
- Code of Conduct on acceptable and unacceptable behaviours for staff, volunteers and project participants.
- Safer recruitment policies and processes, which includes conducting relevant disclosure and/or criminal records checks for individuals directly working with children and/or vulnerable adults.
- We require clients, customers, partners, and suppliers to operate within the British Council's Safeguarding Policy:

https://www.britishcouncil.org/sites/default/files/safeguarding_policy_2.0.pdf

Partners, Suppliers & Contractors:

The terms 'partners, suppliers and contractors' relate to all those who we have a contract or agreement to provide goods, services, or collaboration. It includes implementing partners who carry out work on our behalf and other stakeholders with whom the British Council may establish a working relationship, such as Ministries, and Donors and Funders.

Israeli Institutions will be expected to provide the following documents (or equivalent):

- Code of Conduct on acceptable and unacceptable behaviours for staff and project participants (preferably in English if available, otherwise in Hebrew)
- Individual screening policy and process (e.g. recruitment policy) demonstrating that relevant disclosure and/or criminal records checks for individuals directly working with children and/or vulnerable adults are conducted.

- Reporting procedure and focal point for incident reporting (the name of the focal point will be included in the application form)

7. Ethics and research governance

It is essential that all legal and professional codes of practice are followed in conducting work supported by this Programme. Applicants must ensure the proposed activity will be carried out to the highest standards of ethics and research integrity.

Ethics guidance for UK applicants:

It is essential that all legal and professional codes of practice are followed in conducting work supported by this Programme. Applicants must ensure the proposed activity will be carried out to the highest standards of ethics and research integrity.

Please refer to the Research Councils UK 'Policy and Guidelines on Governance of Good Research Conduct' (<https://www.ukri.org/councils/esrc/guidance-for-applicants/research-ethics-guidance/our-policy-and-guidelines-for-good-research-conduct>), the Inter Academy Partnership report 'Doing Global Science: A Guide to Responsible Conduct in the Global Research Enterprise' (<http://www.interacademycouncil.net/24026/29429.aspx>) or contact us at ISPF_UK-Israel@britishcouncil.org

It is the absolute responsibility of the Principal Applicants and their Institutions to ensure that appropriate ethical approval is granted and adhered to, and that no research requiring ethical approval is initiated until it has been granted.

In the online 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. Specifically, applications that involve research on animals, human participants, human tissue, or patient/participant data must be accompanied by necessary permission certificates from the relevant local ethical review committees/authorities in the UK and Israel, or an undertaking to obtain this permission in advance of the activity commencing. Failure to do so will result in applications being rendered ineligible and any funding already committed through this call being rescinded.

Approval(s) for the research detailed in an ISPF grant proposal must be granted by the appropriate bodies before any work can commence. Organisations, applicants, and grant holders have absolute responsibility for ensuring that the necessary approvals are granted for the research set out in their proposal.

The Principal Applicant/Lead Institution must be prepared to provide the British Council with a copy of the ethical approval, and any correspondence with the committees, if requested by either funder. The Project Leader must notify the British Council if a regulator or a research ethics committee requires amendments that substantially affect the research question, methodology or costs to the extent that the project is no longer the same as that approved for funding by the British Council.

Ethics guidance for Israeli applicants

The procedure and requirements for submitting approvals regarding experiments by the relevant Ethics Committee in Israel are outlined in the instructions for submission section below.

8. Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

The British Council is committed to equality, diversity, and inclusion, and to continuing to attract and nurture talented people from the widest pool to remain internationally competitive in research and innovation. We believe that everyone has a right to be treated with dignity and respect, and to be provided with equal opportunities to flourish and succeed. This includes avoidance of bias due to disability, gender reassignment, marriage or civil partnership status, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sexual orientation, sex (gender) and age.

We also recognise, and will seek to maximise, the benefits achieved by diversity of thought and experience within inclusive groups, organisations, and the wider community. British Council is therefore committed to ensuring that the best potential researchers from a diverse population are attracted into research careers. Applicants are asked to consider encouraging participation from researchers from underrepresented groups in the teams implementing their proposed activities.

We are able to offer additional funding to support participation as Exceptions up to a total of £2,000 per proposal, upon request. Please refer to the budget section of this document for additional information. Such requests should be clearly marked in the budget form under Exceptions and should be supported by justifications submitted separately by email to: ISPF_UK-Israel@britishcouncil.org.

For more on the British Council's approach, see our Equality Policy at: <https://www.britishcouncil.org/about-us/how-we-work/policies/equality-diversity-inclusion>

9. UK Trusted Research and Innovation

Trusted Research is a cross-research and innovation sector term for protecting intellectual property, sensitive research, people and infrastructure from potential theft, misuse, and exploitation. In this context, there are established programmes of work on managing security and related risks in international higher education. The British Council works to ensure its partner institutions are aware of and understand the nature of risks posed by these issues, and that they are able to respond appropriately.

As your application involves international collaboration and will be funded through the ISPF, you will need to demonstrate how your proposed project will identify potential risks and the relevant controls you will put in place to help proportionately reduce these risks. This will include describing what due diligence for ethical, legal, financial and security considerations have been undertaking in planning the project; confirming you have had open discussions with your partners around any conflicts of interest and how you will ensure both physical and on-line segregation of the data and outcomes from this project from other research you and the partner are undertaking separately.

Further information on managing risks in internationalism for UK Institutions has been produced by Universities UK and UKRI.

- [Universities UK: Managing risks in internationalisation: security related issues](#)
- [Managing risks in international research and innovation](#)

10. Submission process

Expected timeline of the Call for Proposals:

Activity	Date
Call for proposals launch	31 July 2024
Deadline for pre-submission for Israeli researchers on Science Forefront platform	23 September 2024, 15:00 IL time
Deadline for submission	30 September 2024, In Israel: 13:00 GMT / 15:00 IL time In the UK: 17:00 GMT / 19:00 IL time
Results*	February 2025

*Indicative date

The joint deadline for submission of a completed application is **30 September 2024**.

The deadline applies to all parts of your application, including the uploading of fully completed supporting documentation. Any applications which are not submitted *in full* by both sides by the deadline, with all required supporting documents, will be considered *ineligible*. Appeals against this decision will not be accepted.

Joint research proposal section

For each proposal, the UK partner will submit an application on the UK online application platform which has been prepared together with the Israeli Applicant. The Israeli applicant will submit an identical proposal for research activities on the Israeli platform, [Science Forefront platform](#).

To ensure that the proposed research activities are identical in both the UK and MOST's online application platforms, project proposals should be prepared by the applicants together and the following sections of the UK application form **must be copied and pasted into Appendix 4, Research Proposal, and uploaded on to MOST's Platform**:

- Section 1: Proposal summary
- Section 2: The research project
- Section 3: The collaboration
- Section 4: Sustainability and capacity strengthening
- Section 5: Bibliography

Please see in Annex 4 the questions included in these sections.

Further submission instructions for Israeli research teams:

- The Israeli PI shall submit the proposal through the Science Forefront system, at <https://kf.most.gov.il>.
- In order to apply for the first time, the applicant needs to fill an "account request" at the Science Forefront system. The request should be approved by the Research Authority of the Affiliated Institution. Once approved, the applicant will be notified by email that the account is active. The approval process may take time and therefore should be done well in advance of the application deadline.

- Deadline for mandatory researchers' pre- submission: The Principal Investigator must submit the proposal in English via the Science Forefront system a week before the final Joint Deadline, by **23 September, 2024 at 15:00 IL time**. The online system will be closed for submissions after the said date and hour and no submissions will be accepted after that time.
- A proposal that has been submitted can be edited by the PI, in coordination with the Affiliated Institution, until the final joint submission deadline.
- The Affiliated Institution must submit the proposal no later than by the final deadline on **30 September, 2024 at 15:00 Israel time**. Proposals that are not submitted by the Affiliated Institution through the Science Forefront system by this time will not be accepted.
- Please be advised that technical problems are possible, and the submission process may take a significant amount of time.

It is strongly recommended to fulfil the above steps well in advance of the application deadlines.

The Science Forefront platform will be closed for submissions after the deadline and no researchers' submissions will be accepted after that time. Israeli researchers who have not submitted their proposals by the defined deadline local time in Israel will not be allowed to submit their proposal.

10.1 Application form for UK side only

Applicants must submit a completed application and supporting information on the [online application form](#).

Once the online application is submitted, the system will generate a unique application ID number. Applicants should note this number and use it in all communications with the British Council.

Queries and troubleshooting:

Please contact us on ISPF_Israel@british.council.org if:

- You experience problems with the online submission system. You must contact the project team **before** the submission deadline. If you alert us to technical issues after the deadline, we will not be able to take them into consideration when assessing the eligibility of your application.
- You require an alternative format of the on-line submission form for reasons of accessibility.
- The system will generate a unique application ID number. Applicants should note this number and use it in all communications with the British Council.
- You have not received an ID number once your online application has been submitted.

Completing the application form:

To assist you in developing your application and sharing content with your partners, a Word version of the online application form will be available for download from the call website. This is solely to allow you to develop your responses in a convenient format. The final version of your application **must** be submitted using the online form.

Please give specific regard to the following sections of the application form:

Gender Equality Statement

Applicants are required to consider the impact their joint project will have on gender equality. Gender Equality is not the same as Gender Balance, although it does include Gender Balance, it is mainly concerned with the impacts of the proposed project. This 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. It should not be a re-statement of your Institution’s policy, you may refer to the policy, but you should show how the policy will be implemented in terms of the project. The Gender Statement must address the below criteria, with an understanding that, depending on the nature of the research and innovation, not all questions will be applicable. If a question is not applicable, you will need to articulate the reasons why.

The principle of inclusive research applies to the project as a whole, therefore both UK and Israel Applicants are expected to take part in addressing the gender equality statements, referring to project activities and teams in both countries. The Gender Equality Statement will only be filled in in the UK application form and will be checked by the British Council.

The British Council reserves the right to reject the application if no consideration has been given to gender equality or if the proposal is assessed to result in a negative impact on gender equality.

Gender Equality 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 research and innovation.
- 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)?

For more information: [Gender Equality Statements - Guidance for Applicants](#) Please also refer to Appendix 2.

10.2 Supporting Documents for both UK and Israeli applicants

In addition to filling in the online form, applicants are required to upload the following documents, as described, by the deadline. **Late submission of supporting documents or submission of documents which do not comply with these requirements, will render the application *ineligible*.** The documents are:

1. **Both Applicants’ Narrative CVs** (up to two sides of A4 each in the R4RI format or up to two pages)

2. **Budget sheet** using the template available on the British Council call webpage. **Israeli applicants will also need to fill in the budget section in the Science Forefront platform separately.**
3. **GANTT Chart** showing timelines for the project with reference to the start and end dates indicated.
4. **Letter of intent** from the research Principal Applicants in both countries affirming their intent to collaborate on the proposed research.

All letters of intent must be in English on headed paper, dated within 3 months of the submission.

In addition, UK applicants only are required to submit:

5. **Letter of support from the research institution, including:** Principal Applicant's organisation, signed by the Head of Institution, Head of Department, or other person with appropriate delegated authority, expressing specific commitment to the proposed project, willingness to receive funding, a description of any in-kind support to be given and describing why the experience and capability of the Principal Applicant is particularly suited to the project content. Please note that supporting letters must not be signed by the Principal Applicants and should be submitted as a pdf file.
6. **Associated Partners Letter (where relevant)** - If the proposal includes project partners/associated partners, a pdf file combining together signed letters from each partner containing a maximum of 300 words on their contribution to the project - this could be financial or in-kind, e.g. expertise. There is only one slot for uploading project partners/associated partners letter, so all supporting letters **must** be submitted as a **combined** document. Links to partner websites should be included if applicable. Letters from every project partner/associated partner listed in the application **must** be provided.

7. Safeguarding policies to include in the application:

UK institutions:

- a) Weblink to Institution Safeguarding and Whistleblowing Policies
- b) Weblink to Institution Codes of Conduct on Acceptable and Unacceptable Behaviours for staff and project participants

Israeli Institutions:

- a) Weblink to Institution Codes of Conduct on Acceptable and Unacceptable Behaviours for staff and project participants (or equivalent)
- b) Weblink to Institutional policy and process for Individual Screening (e.g. HR or recruitment policies) in Israel
- c) Incident Reporting procedure

8. **A draft risk assessment for the project as a whole**, prepared by both applicants (mandatory if funding for travel is requested), outlining the measures, including reporting procedures, and support that will be put in place for any travel to host institutions. **The risk assessment should also cover project participants in their own institution.**

In addition, UK institutions are expected to comply with British Council policies on prevention of fraud, bribery, money laundering and addressed any other financial and reputational risk

that may affect a transparent and fair grant award process. Please see:
<https://www.britishcouncil.org/organisation/transparency/policies/anti-fraud-and-corruption>

Any other documents uploaded with your application or sent late or separately will not be considered. Projects will be considered ineligible if files are missing, incomplete or not submitted via Submittable with the application.

Additional instructions for Israeli Applicants:

Israeli Applicants must also provide on the Science Forefront platform:

- Israel Applicant CV format following this format: 2 page long, including: personal statement (brief description of why the investigator is well-suited for the role on the proposed project); list of ongoing and completed research projects from the last three years that the investigator wishes to highlight; citation of up to five publications or research products that highlight the investigator's experience and qualifications for the proposed project; positions, scientific appointments, and honors.
- Short abstract (up to 1500 characters in Hebrew and English).
- Applicability up to 1000 characters in Hebrew.
- Adapting the research to the sub-themes defined in the call (up to 500 characters in Hebrew/English). Budget request in NIS and an indication of the UK Applicant's budget. The conversion rate to be used is 1GBP / 4.6 NIS.
- Other sources of support related to proposed research by Israeli Applicant: additional supports received for the proposed research must be detailed in a separate document in accordance with the published format, in addition to the questions included on the platform.
- Additional authorizations needed depending on the type of research (e.g. Helsinki Committee, animal experiments) shall be submitted along with the proposal. In case the required authorization is still not available at the time of submission, a statement in free text should be attached including the researcher's commitment that if their proposal is approved, the required authorization will be submitted as soon as possible.

11. 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 is listed:

- as an individual or entity with whom national or multinational 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) 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 grant call. The applicant must provide the British Council with all information 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.

12. Selection process

Selection begins with an eligibility check by the British Council and MOST against the eligibility criteria given in these Guidelines (applicants may use the Eligibility Checklist in Appendix 1 to assist) and Appendix 3 (Gender Equality Statement)

Eligible proposals then undergo independent external quality review based on quality, research capacity strengthening potential and sustainability of the collaboration, as follows:

- Assessment and scoring in the UK and Israel by independent experts (see Appendix 2 for assessment criteria).
- Review by parallel Review Panels of experts in Israel and the UK, each determines a panel score, ranks applications, and makes recommendations for funding.
- Joint final decision making in Israel and the UK.

Proposals are quality assessed against the criteria at Appendix 2, resulting in a total score between 0 and 60. Those receiving a final score from the Panel meeting of less than 30 will be considered not fundable. However, achieving a score equal to or above the threshold does not guarantee that the proposal will be selected for funding.

Successful applicants will be notified approximately 6 months after the call deadline.

13. Data protection

How we use your information

The British Council will use the information that you provide for the purposes of processing your application, making any awards, monitoring evaluation, review of any grants, and reporting to the funder.

We will need to share necessary data with application reviewers and panel members contracted by the British Council, the funder, UK Department for Science, Innovation & Technology (DSIT), and the Ministry of Innovation, Science and Technology (MOST) and contracted external evaluators (as required).

The British Council complies with the General Data Protection Regulation (EU) 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, 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 anonymized 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 see our website: <http://www.britishcouncil.org/privacy-cookies/data-protection>.

Data protection in Israel:

The Israeli Government's cyber protection policy is derived from Israeli Government decisions, laws and regulations, cyber protection theory, ISO 27001 and ISO 27032 standards etc. and MOST being a government ministry is committed accordingly. The guiding principles for this policy constitute the framework for a comprehensive procedural infrastructure in the field of cyber protection.

More information can be found: [אבטחת מידע וסייבר \(www.gov.il\)](http://www.gov.il)

14. Contractual Requirements

In the UK

- The contracting authority for UK Institutions 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 (see: www.britishcouncil.org/organisation/structure/status).
- The successful applicants will be expected to undertake activities in the UK and in Israel
- 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.
- The British Council's contractual approach in respect of the grant is set out at:

[ISPF Grant Base Template](#)

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.

- If you have any concerns or queries in relation to the Grant Agreement, you should submit a clarification request to ISPF_UK-Israel@britishcouncil.org in accordance with the provisions of this call for applications by the application deadline. The British Council reserves the right not to make any changes to the Grant Agreement.
- The British Council is under no obligation to consider any clarifications / amendments to the Grant Agreement requested following the application deadline.

In Israel

- Israeli applicants should consult "standard MOST Procedures Regarding Scientific Projects Funded by MOST" and the "MOST Standard Contract for Scientific Projects" (hereinafter: 'MOST Regulations') on contractual requirements in Israel. All procedures and activities under this Call or the projects approved hereinafter, including the eligibility of Affiliated Institutions via which applications must be filed, are subject to MOST Regulations and to MOST Standard Contract for Scientific Projects ("Standard Terms").

Applicants are required to familiarize themselves with the Standard Terms before filing an application under this Call. Filing an application constitutes a declaration that the applicant has done so and agrees to be bound by the Standard Terms' provisions thereof.

- Additionally, it is strongly recommended that the UK and Israeli research teams and their Institutions enter into an agreement regarding Intellectual Property rights from

the output of the financed project prior to the commencement of the collaborative activities.

Payments:

Payments will be made by the British Council and MOST to the Affiliated Institution of each Principal Applicant, respectively, in keeping with the provisions of the contracts referred to above, according to the regulations and practices in force in each country.

Interim and Final reports:

Reporting requirements for each national research team are set out in the research agreements between each team's Research Institution and the relevant Party to this call.

For the Israeli Party: In accordance with the terms of the “standard MOST Procedures Regarding Scientific Projects Funded by MOST” and to “MOST Standard Contract for Scientific Projects”. Within three months of the conclusion of the project, Israeli PIs must submit a final report in English to MOST at Reports@most.gov.il or through the Science Forefront system. It should include a final scientific and financial report covering the work and cooperation carried out during the entire 3-year project period, in accordance with the contract's requirements

15. Contact details

All queries or comments about this call should be addressed to the ISPF email address: ISPF_UK-Israel@britishcouncil.org

Queries by Israeli applicants may be addressed to MOST, to:
Dr Iris Eisenberg, Director of Life Sciences Research on IrisE@most.gov.il

Ms Claire Levaton, Head of International Scientific Relations Department with France, Italy, UK, Canada & Western North Europe on claire@most.gov.il

APPENDIX 1: ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA CHECKLIST

Eligibility criteria checklist for Applicants	
The application	
The application has been submitted by the published deadline with all supporting documents.	
The proposal is in line with the scope of the call for proposals.	
The application has been submitted by a Principal Applicant in the UK and a Principal Applicant in Israel.	
<p>Principal Applicants are based at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a not-for-profit higher education institution with the capacity to undertake high-quality research • a research institution with the capacity to undertake high-quality research <p>For the UK, if the lead institution is Higher Education Institution, it must be included in the eligible research organisation list. If unsure, please contact ISPF_UK-Israel@britishcouncil.org.</p>	
<p>The application includes two supporting letters:</p> <p>Letter of intent for both applicants</p> <p>Institutional support letter for UK applicants only. Institutional support letters are not signed by the Principal Applicants.</p> <p>Letters must follow the instruction in section 10 of these Guidelines.</p>	
Narrative CVs which conform to the requirements by the UK and Israeli sides have been submitted.	
The application includes a detailed budget request using the appropriate budget spreadsheet provided.	
A Gantt chart of no more than 1 page long has been submitted.	
If there are associated partners, a letter from each partner has been uploaded as required within a single pdf. Letters must be dated within 3 months of the application deadline.	
A draft completed risk assessment for travel has been submitted with the application if funding for travel is requested	
Each section of the application form has been completed in full and complies with the instructions given.	
The application form and supporting documents have been completed in English.	
The Applicants have submitted only one application under this ISPF UK/IL Research Collaboration call.	
Additional criteria required by MOST has been reviewed and adhered to.	

APPENDIX 2: ASSESSMENT CRITERIA AND SCORING SYSTEM

Section 1: Relevance to gender equality	Score	Range
		Sufficient /Insufficient
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Measures are 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. • The project will have a positive impact on people of different genders, both throughout the project and beyond. • The potential impact on the relations between people of different genders and people of the same gender is clearly described. For example, changing roles and responsibilities in households, society, economy, politics, power, etc. • Risks and unintended negative consequences on gender equality will be monitored, avoided, or mitigated against. • Relevant outcomes and outputs will be measured with disaggregated data by age and gender (where disclosed). 		<p>Not addressed: The proposal does not include any specific measure to reduce gender inequality or for people of different genders to be involved in the project. (Insufficient)</p> <p>.</p> <p>Good: Proposals show understanding of the local context, risks, basic needs, and vulnerabilities of persons of different genders, and exercise due diligence to address these needs in the relation to the proposal. (Sufficient)</p> <p>Excellent: Programmes/projects build assets, capabilities, and opportunities for persons of different genders. (Sufficient)</p> <p>Transformative: Programmes/projects address unequal power relations and seek systemic institutional, legal, and societal changes. (Sufficient)</p>

Section 2: Research/innovation quality and background	Score	Range
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The academic importance and timeliness of the research/innovation topic is clearly demonstrated. • The proposal demonstrates scientific excellence, the research is unique and innovative. • The proposal demonstrates very strong evidence of the complementarity of the research teams, and an equal partnership in terms of contribution to implementation. • The Principal Applicants have sufficient relevant experience to undertake the proposed research collaboration and achieve the stated objectives. • The added value – to institutions and/or the wider research and innovation community – by the collaboration between the partnering institutions is clearly described. • The collaborating institutions are of appropriate academic standing. • The benefits and relevance of the research to the UK and Israel institution is clearly described. 		<p>0–20</p> <p>20 points: Meets all criteria to an exceptional level</p> <p>16 to 19 points: Meets most of the criteria to a very high level</p> <p>11 to 15 points: Meets most of the criteria to a high level</p> <p>6 to 10 points: Meets most of the criteria to an adequate level</p> <p>1 to 5 points: Meets some of the criteria to an adequate level</p> <p>0 points: Fails to meet any of the criteria to an adequate level.</p>

Section 3: Proposal	Score	Range
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The description of the proposed collaboration includes clear, feasible and realistic objectives as well as potential for long term impact. • Applicants clearly articulate specific outputs anticipated from the collaboration and objectives likely to be achieved. • The proposal explains the benefits to both the UK and Israel researchers/innovation practitioners, institutions and, where relevant, end-users of the research or the products and services that will result from the project activity, considering who might benefit and how they might benefit. • There is strong evidence of support from the applicants' institutions and Associated Partners (where applicable). • The proposed collaboration supports new links or significantly extends and develops existing links. • If the applicants' institutions are collaborating already, there is clear evidence that the grant would add significant value to the collaboration. • The proposal includes a clear and feasible description of the arrangements for project managing the collaboration and communication between partners. • The proposal represents value for money; all costs are fully justified. 		<p>0–20</p>
		<p>20 points: Meets all criteria to an exceptional level</p> <p>16 to 19 points: Meets most of the criteria to a very high level</p> <p>11 to 15 points: Meets most of the criteria to a high level</p> <p>6 to 10 points: Meets most of the criteria to an adequate level</p> <p>1 to 5 points: Meets some of the criteria to an adequate level</p> <p>0 points: Fails to meet any of the criteria to an adequate level.</p>

Section 4: Sustainability and capacity strengthening	Score	Range
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The potential in terms of professional development and capacity building for researchers, innovation practitioners and other individuals participating in the collaboration is clearly described. The proposal includes a clear and feasible description of how the participating institutions/organisations intend to sustain their collaboration over the longer-term. The proposal demonstrates clearly the development opportunities for early career researchers 		<p>0–20</p> <p>20 points: Meets all criteria to an exceptional level</p> <p>16 to 19 points: Meets most of the criteria to a very high level</p> <p>11 to 15 points: Meets most of the criteria to a high level</p> <p>6 to 10 points: Meets most of the criteria to an adequate level</p> <p>1 to 5 points: Meets some of the criteria to an adequate level</p> <p>0 points: Fails to meet any of the criteria to an adequate level.</p>
Total score for quality assessment (Section 2 + Section 3 + Section 4)	Score	Range
		<p>0–60</p>

APPENDIX 3. GENDER EQUALITY STATEMENTS

This annex provides additional guidance for applicants on what to include in a Gender Equality Statement to be submitted to the British Council only.

Guidance for applicants

All applicants are expected to submit a Gender Equality Statement, is expected that some projects will have less impact on gender and gender relations and professional judgement of the applicants should be exercised to ensure appropriate consideration of the context and intended aims of the project. Applicants can reference other parts of their application within this statement, if relevant.

Applicants are required to address the below criteria, with an understanding that, depending on the nature of their research and innovation, not all questions will be applicable.

Criteria to address while considering gender impact:

- 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.
- 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)?

In addition, applicants must provide, **or** provide evidence that they have considered the following key inception actions:

- Gender Analysis – to understand gender equality issues in relation to the sector/context/country.
- Gender Impact Assessment – to understand impact of interventions (benefits & losses) on persons of different gender
- Consideration of Risk
- Risk Matrix: to identify Gender risks & unintended negative consequences to avoid, mitigate & monitor.
- Risk mitigation: including implementation of social & environmental sustainability performance standards; social safeguards.
- Implementing partners are confident interventions will do no harm and not worsen discrimination/gender inequality.
- Addresses basic needs of persons of different gender.
- Minimal institutional change to support sustained gender equality, empowerment of persons of different gender, and wider social inclusion.
- Gender disaggregated data & KPI (Key Performance Indicator) indicators where possible for programme/projects/projects & logframes.

- Information Sharing: Accurate, timely information shared with stakeholders through range of communication methods appropriate for context and target audience.
- Codes of Conduct: Staff and partners have signed and been trained on the organisation's code of conduct with respect to gender discrimination and have general safeguarding policies in place.
- Stakeholder and Community engagement Plan: Consultation with persons of different gender, poor and gender-discriminated groups, Civil Society Organisations (including Disabled People's Organisations and Persons of different gender's Rights organisations), SMEs.

Things to consider: Incorporating gender equality into Research and Innovation activities.

Understanding gender and gender equality

- Have you understood that your concepts of gender norms, roles and values may vary across members of your project team, research and innovation participants and beneficiaries?
- Have you understood the different norms and values of gender depending on the context of your research and/or innovation?
- Equal opportunities and meaningful contributions
- Is there (or is there a plan to work towards) a gender balance in the project team at all levels? If not, why?
- Are there equal opportunities for persons of different gender in the recruitment of the project team?
- Are all members of the project team involved in the design and delivery of the research and/or innovation in a way that is providing equality of opportunity for people of different genders and across intersecting axes of difference?

Research and innovation content

- If the research and/or innovation involves humans or human physiology, has the relevance of gender to the research question and/or innovation topic been analysed?
- Have you considered the impact on the relations between people of different genders, and of the same gender? For example, changing roles and responsibilities in households, society, economy, politics, etc.?
- If the research and/or innovation involves human participants or human physiology, is there a gender balance? If not, why?
- Have you reviewed literature and other sources (such as expertise/networks within the local context) relating to gender differences in the research and/or innovation field?
- Have you considered how to disaggregate any data you collect by gender?

Dissemination and impact of your research

- Have different outcomes, outputs and impacts of the research and/or innovation been identified based on gender and gender differences?
- Have you considered how you will disseminate your research and/or innovation in a way that is gender responsive? For example, the use of gender-impartial language.

“Mainstreaming” gender considerations: Including Gender in your Project Proposal. Consider discussing gender throughout your proposal, rather than just in the Gender Equality Statement.

- Gender sensitive language is an easy way to show you have thought about gender throughout your application. If you are using general, inclusive phrases such as ‘local communities,’ ‘beneficiaries’ ‘research participants,’ make it clear what the composition of these groups are. For example, ‘the men, women and children in the local community will benefit from the outputs of the project.’
- Showcasing equality of opportunities for all members of the project team is also an effective way to illustrate how you have considered gender equality in your proposal.
- Explaining why, for example, you have chosen to use female organs or tissue in your research and innovation, is a good way to illustrate how you have considered gender and differences between genders whilst developing your research and innovation questions and activities.
- Consider the possible gendered outcomes: where and to whom the benefits will be experienced.

Including gender in your project is a great way to illustrate Interdisciplinarity

- By reflecting on gender issues within the content and context of your research, there is a great opportunity to foster collaboration between scientists and gender experts. For some research and innovation projects, it can also be beneficial to illustrate how you are incorporating elements of social science in your project.
- Consider whether the effectiveness and the successful implementation of your research and innovation may benefit from including gender expertise throughout the duration of the project.

Some research and innovation will be more gender-impartial

- Not all research and innovation will have equal impact on people of different genders. Some research and innovation are specifically targeted at people of a specific gender or includes studies on physiology of a certain gender –and that is ok! Considering gender does not mean you cannot do gender specific studies!
- Being gender sensitive in your research and innovation is intended to minimise potential barriers throughout the project cycle and to prevent any unforeseen negative consequences for people of different genders. It will allow you to examine how you can be more inclusive and maximise the impacts of your research and innovation.

The University of Edinburgh has also produced some guidance on gender relevant research:

<https://www.gender.ed.ac.uk/gender-sensitive-research/improving-research/>

APPENDIX 4. RESEARCH PROPOSAL

1. Proposal Summary

1.2 **Project Abstract** Please give a short summary in plain English of the ISPF collaboration and the research/innovation area(s) to be covered. This should be a statement for a non-specialist audience, giving the rationale of the collaboration, briefly describing what will be done and summarising its potential impact. (no more than 1500 characters including spaces)

2. The Research Project

2.1 **Objectives of the project (up to 5; specific and achievable)** (No more than 1000 characters including spaces)
Please include up to 5 specific and achievable objectives. Objectives should cover what you hope to achieve through delivery of your outputs.

2.2 **Key deliverables and anticipated outputs** (No more than 1000 characters, including spaces)

We define these as immediate results of your activities, e.g. research outcomes, new innovations, prototypes, patents, resources developed, learning achieved, (usually disseminated through publications, conferences, public events, interaction with the media) prospects for commercialisation.

2.3 **Please provide details of the research that is to be undertaken in the proposed ISPF UK/Israel Collaboration and place it clearly in its scientific context.** (No more than 5000 characters, including spaces)

Please structure the text to make it easily accessible for reviewers, for example by using section headings and bullet points. You should address the following:

- Describe the topic of the project, stressing its importance and timeliness
- Describe how the research objectives relate to and could add value to the existing literature;
- Describe what will be done, by whom, and at what institution;
- Describe research methodology and how this will produce outputs;
- Indicate how the skills and backgrounds of the applicants make them particularly well-suited to carry out the research.

2.4 **Indicative timetable with milestones covering the entire lifetime of the grant requested.** (No more than 1000 characters, including spaces)

3. The Collaboration

3.1 **Is this activity part of an existing collaboration between the UK and the Israel partner institution? Yes / No**

If yes:

3.2 **Please give details of the collaboration** (No more than 1000 characters including spaces)

3.3 What roles will the different individuals/institutions have in the collaboration? (No more than 1000 characters including spaces)

3.4 How will the collaboration be managed (including regarding communications)?
(No more than 1000 characters)

3.5 What value will the different individuals/ institutions/organisations add to the collaboration (with specific reference to their complementary expertise and technical resources)?

How will each of the individuals/institutions/ organisations benefit and how does the collaboration support the strategies or needs of the institutions/organisations in the UK and in the Israel Partner? (No more than 3000 characters, including spaces)

4. Sustainability and capacity strengthening

4.1 Please Provide a description of how the UK and the Israel research group/institutions plan to continue the collaboration after the end of the activity, providing information about potential funding sources that might support it.

4.2 Please indicate the level of capacity strengthening on individual Level, with emphasis on early career researchers (No more than 1500 characters, including spaces)

5. Bibliography

Please provide a complete bibliographic list with the five most relevant items for the proposed research should be marked with an asterisk.