

The British Council aims to build UK - Mexico collaborations centred on overcoming social welfare and economic development challenges.

Higher Education Links is a British Council programme designed to establish institutional links beyond the individual level, in order to open up opportunities for more sustainable, regional development academia and government collaborations engaging with the private and third sector.

Higher Education Links grants provide small-scale seed funding for high quality collaborations between the UK Institutions and Mexican Higher Education Institutions to build projects on the following priority areas:

- Student employability & competitiveness.
- Research & Development.
- Social Innovation & Inclusion.

Next, British Council Mexico provides a list of potential Mexican partners for Higher Education Links joint proposals to be submitted before the 2017 call closes on September 30. An overview of the expected projects is included for British Institutions interested in participate in this programme, for more detailed information on the call and the application form, please follow the link below.

<https://www.britishcouncil.org.mx/events/higher-education-links>

In case, you consider a particular project for joint participation, feel free to contact directly the Mexican Higher Education Institution via email copying:

HELlinks@britishcouncil.org.mx

Polytechnic University of Mexico's Valley (UPVM)	
Location	Tultitlan - Estado de México
Main contact	Alejandro Luna Avilez
Email	alelunaav@hotmail.com
Telephone	525550626460
Department	R&D - Mechatronics
Priority area	Research and development
Collaboration proposal overview	In Mexico's Valley there are several enterprises (around 400), SMEs mainly, related to automotive and aerospace industry. Most of them require support for development and maintenance of molds and dies related to plastic injection processes and forging processes.

Relevance	The Mexican market related to injection molding and forging is calculated in 7.8 m. This market represents a big opportunity for investment and development of new technology related to mentioned technological areas. UPVM can be used as a technology development centre for Mexico's Valley region.
UK partner area of expertise	Knowledge and expertise related to injection molding processes and forging processes mainly related to CAD/CAM/CAE design in a first step. For a second step manufacturing processes and for a third step, technology development for SME's.
Expected outcomes	Our principal interest is focused in technology transfer, courses, new developments and researching lines related to injection molding processes and forging processes.
Proposed dates for workshops	January 23th - 26th

Universidad de Celaya	
Location	Celaya - Guanajuato
Main contact	Margarita Viridiana Muñiz Rangel
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Telephone	524616133654
Department	Business & Innovation
Priority area	Student employability and competitiveness
Collaboration proposal overview	<p>Universidad de Celaya is an educational institution that seeks to develop a global vision in its students and the community; it is part of our mission and our reason for being. The institution was founded by a local entrepreneur almost 30 years ago, who was not looking for profit, but rather to provide opportunity for growth to the residents of this small city in central Mexico.</p> <p>We are convinced that education is the key for growth, and an alliance with organizations that have international experience and know-how is very necessary for us.</p> <p>Following the step of our belated founder, we are looking to contribute to our society, so we seek to collaborate with an institution or organization in the UK who can help us provide the people in our community with increased employability and competitiveness through innovation and entrepreneurship; good and hardworking people without the right knowledge to make their ideas, projects, business and our society grow.</p> <p>Our main goal is to generate an organized entrepreneurial ecosystem in the region with a high global innovative vision, with the training and potential to boost the different sectors of the community. We are looking to work with local schools promoting creativity and innovation; People with disabilities that can fend for themselves through the generation of their own income, as well as young entrepreneurs starting a business and students who are developing start-ups. Through training focused on providing added</p>

	value to society and creating self-employment and competitiveness.
Relevance	<p>Neither Guanajuato state nor Celaya have accessible public programs for the promotion and development of a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship. The Universities are trying to do their part by including business and entrepreneurship in their curricula, but these topics are taught through subject areas in quite a theoretical approach and do not permeate to other sectors of society. New graduates need the vision of increasing employability by embarking on entrepreneurial ventures, rather than falling into the thick mud of job seekers.</p> <p>In addition, the small businesses that make up the industry of the region are lacking in a global vision for innovation and scalability which keeps them from growing and ties them down to the local market.</p> <p>It is our belief that a training centre dedicated to promoting a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship in the different sectors of society will result in children and young adults with clear and innovative ideas which can be the seed for business that can increase employment in the region. Training that will help already existing business to further develop to compete not only at a local level, but to also internationally.</p> <p>Self-employment and entrepreneurial culture, as well as innovation, are fundamental tools for the economic and social development of our community; generating opportunities that stop our young talent from migrating illegally to the U.S. in search of the American dream and rather have the training and tools to create employment here at home and live the Mexican dream.</p>
UK partner area of expertise	Experts in methodologies of innovation and development of entrepreneurs.
Expected outcomes	Generate a training centre focused on: value proposition, innovation and entrepreneurship for the region.
Proposed dates for workshops	February 5th - 9th

Tecnológico de Monterrey	
Location	Monterrey - Nuevo León
Main contact	Marcela Gomez
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Telephone	528123211420
Department	Education
Priority area	Social inclusion
Collaboration proposal overview	Social innovation: New strategies for the development of sustainable energy solutions

Relevance	<p>We are an interdisciplinary team of professors, researchers and doctoral students from different Tecnológico de Monterrey campus committed to the development of high impact solutions to the challenges of energy sustainability facing Mexico.</p> <p>Our mission is to contribute significantly to the creation of a national science, technology and education network for the development of sustainable energy solutions in Mexico.</p> <p>Our vision is to be leaders in Mexico and Latin America of a new way to understand the creation of knowledge and its transfer to the resolution of the citizen problems based on collaboration, multidisciplinary, open access and the link between university and society.</p> <p>Development of human talent in energy sustainability issues using innovative technology to support the development of a more attractive, dynamic and competitive energy sector, and support the training of specialists at a technical level that the country will require, through: the development of projects Research, formal graduate programs, and the use of educational technology for the provision of open mass courses online, in conjunction with the design and implementation of competency assessment and certification processes.</p>
UK partner area of expertise	<p>Social innovation / Sustainable development / Energy solutions</p> <p>Training of binational, multidisciplinary and interinstitutional research networks to increase the development of scientific and technological research on key issues to promote the efficient use of energy, promoting the growth and competitiveness of the country. In the initial phase they are integrated with researchers of relevant experience in the various elements of the energy sustainability of the participating institutions. These networks will seek to integrate new participants from public and private institutions that share objectives common to those established for these networks.</p>
Expected outcomes	<p>Support specialized training in energy sustainability and develop human talent with the necessary capacities to respond to the technological conditions existing in the country's energy value chain (electric sector), through postgraduate courses, in the offer of online courses Which will be available at the national level, and validate competencies through certification processes.</p>
Proposed dates for workshops	January / February

Autonomous University of State of Mexico	
Location	Estado de México
Main contact	Beatriz Hernandez
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Telephone	525520672935
Department	R&D - Medical Bioengineering

Priority area	Social Inclusion
Collaboration proposal overview	<p>The State of Mexico has the major population density of the country. In this State there are regions with low resources and difficult access where the medical devices don't work correctly. This problem is produced by low financial resources and few skilled personal.</p> <p>The Autonomous University of State of México develops qualified Medical Bioengineers; these engineers are capable to manage and to give maintenance to medical devices. The main objective of this collaboration is to give experience to the students through real practice with medical devices. The students will be able to fix and give preventive maintenance to basic equipment of priority clinical areas in public hospitals.</p> <p>We are looking to improve the quality in the public medical services and to help the students to their easy integration in the industry. In order to achieve our goal, the students must be trained by skilled person in each technology, we also require material, tools and diagnostic equipment, for this reason we are looking to collaborate with industry, government and other academic institutions.</p>
Relevance	With this project, we pretend that the UAEMEX gets actively involved on the efforts to improve health of the population so the model can be replicated in other states later.
UK partner area of expertise	To develop links between universities and public offices, medical technology management, know how on how to obtain financial resources.
Expected outcomes	The proposal of new collaboration strategies between universities, industry and government.
Proposed dates for workshops	January 16th - 19th