

UK-China-BRI Countries Education Partnership Initiative (2020 Call) Frequently Asked Questions

1. **Q: Are there limits to the number of partner institutions in China and BRI countries?**
A: No, in one proposal there should be at least one partner institution from China and one from **Vietnam and/or Indonesia**.
2. **Q: Do partner institutions from China and BRI countries need to submit the proposal to each side?**
A: No, only one proposal would be needed to be submitted to the British Council from the leading UK institution.
3. **Q: Are there limitations to the number of proposals submitted by one UK institution?**
A: No, although only one proposal per each UK institution will be awarded.
4. **Q: Can institutions in China and BRI countries which are the joint campus but separate legal entities to the UK universities or other universities from non-BRI countries be eligible as partner institutions?**
A: Yes, as long as at least one local institution from China, Vietnam and/or Indonesia are involved as partner institutions.
5. **Q: Can institutions from non-BRI countries be partner institutions?**
A: Yes, as long as the proposal is based on multi-lateral collaboration between UK, China and Vietnam and/or Indonesia. If added value/impact could be achieved, institutions from non-BRI countries could also be invited to participate.
6. **Q: Is there match funding available for Chinese institutions and BRI country institutions?**
A: No, Ministry of Education from China, Vietnam and Indonesia will support local partner institutions to join the partnership, but may not provide funding.
7. **Q: What kind of activities would be eligible for funding?**
A: Activities which could demonstrate impact and value-for-money would be eligible for the proposal, this could include but is not limited to: joint research, publications, TNE, mobility, workshops, meetings, trainings, etc.
8. **Q: What expenses will be covered by the Partnership Initiative funding?**
A: Within the Partnership Initiative, funding can cover: experts for consultancy, international and domestic flights (economy class only), accommodation and subsistence, event venue costs and other event costs, translation, etc.
The Partnership Initiative funding does not support desktops, laptops, printers, scanners, cameras, office rental, labs facilities, salaries, overhead costs, indirect costs, officials to attend meetings or seminars, business class and premium economy, entertainment such as alcohol/spirits, etc.
9. **Q: As outlined in the Guidelines, “project proposal must have sign off from the most senior leader of each of partner institutions”, where should they sign and must the senior leaders of all the partner institutions sign off the proposal?**
A: The senior leader of the leading UK institution would need to sign off the proposal under Section 4 “Sign off”. Dean of School would be sufficient if necessary, but sign-off from a **PVC and above** would be preferable. A headed paper of supporting letter would not be necessary.
10. **Q: Will there be another round of call next year?**
A: Presently we cannot confirm whether another call for interest will be announced in 2021.