

## Background

The UK-Turkey Knowledge Partnership Programme is a programme developed collaboratively by British Council, UKTI and the Science Innovation Network with Turkish partners. It was launched by the Secretary of State for BIS and the Turkish Ministry of Economy in September 2011.

The programme aims to promote co-operation, innovation, entrepreneurship and investment between the UK and Turkey through the development of bilateral co-operation between Higher Education Institutions and industry in both countries.

The British Council's focus will be on education and science exchange and the building of capacity for industry collaboration with HE and research in Turkey through collaborative partnerships and shared learning with the UK.

We are now inviting jointly submitted proposals from UK and Turkish Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) to develop projects in collaboration with industry in key sectors that have been identified as having value to both countries. Initially, we are inviting proposals in the following fields:

- Agriculture
- Energy
- Food security
- Health
- ICT

## 1. Context

Strengthening industry collaboration with Higher Education and research is a top priority for both the UK and Turkey, as outlined in the UK Government White Paper "[Putting Students at the heart of Higher Education](#)" published in June 2011, and the Turkish Government's paper, "Turkey: Vision 2023".

In Turkey, there is a desire to build on existing good practice by deepening and broadening industry co-operation with Higher Education and research through bilateral collaboration. There is recognition that UK HEIs have strengths in a number of areas:

- high levels of research activity with world leading outputs
- strong interaction between research and industry
- industry-led and applied research
- curricula informed by the needs of industry

Turkey seeks to pursue collaboration opportunities between Turkish and UK research led universities and establish partnerships and joint-ventures.

Turkish universities have research strengths and links to industry of value to the UK. Turkey is the world's 16th and Europe's 6th largest economy. Turkish GDP grew by 8.9% in 2010, making the country the fastest growing economy of Europe.

## 2. Objectives

1. To engage academics and industry in collaborative partnerships between the UK and Turkey, in key sectors of value to both countries, initially: **Agriculture, Energy, Food security, Health and ICT**
2. To share best practice and build capacity in Higher Education and industry collaboration
3. To provide a model for collaboration that can be extended into new sectors.

## 3. Call for Proposals

**3.1.** This is the first year for this call for proposals and we are seeking to establish a maximum of 10 pilot partnerships between UK and Turkish universities based on institution to institution partnerships with demonstrable links into industry.

**3.2** Funding will be provided in the first instance for one year with the assumption that this will extend for a further year on the basis of satisfactory year 1 outputs coupled with proposals for building on the first year experience.

**3.3.** HEIs, as the lead applicants, can bid for total funding over two years as follows: Year one, funding up to a maximum of £20K, Year two, up to a maximum of £5K

## 4. What kind of partnerships can be funded?

A variety of partnership models are possible but we are looking for a number of features. *Essential criteria are as follows:*

**4.1.** The partnership will allow for sharing best practice and learning from Higher Education and industry collaboration.

**4.2.** The partnership must be formed between at least one HEI in the **UK** and at least one public or private HEI in **Turkey**. Partnerships may be one-to-one or involve a consortium (i.e. a small group of universities).

**4.3** The projects should display a combination of elements and may include: applied research, work-related training and development, two-way student exchange, and work placements or internships with private sector participation.

**4.4.** Partnerships are intended to be self-sustaining once established. It is expected that plans will include how the partnership will be sustained after British Council funding has ended, including leveraging other sources of external funding.

**4.5** This must be a joint proposal where the contribution of and benefits to both parties are clearly outlined.

**4.6.** Preference will be given to proposals that meet all the above criteria *and* involve at least one industry partner. Industry partners can be in either the UK or Turkey or in both the UK and Turkey. However, partnership proposals between HEIs which show *a clear plan* to identify and engage an industry partner will be considered.

## **5. Possible partnership activity**

**5.1.** The industry link may serve a variety of objectives. For example:

- the commercialisation of research outputs
- the development of industry led or commissioned research
- industry informed curriculum development.

**5.2.** The project proposal may include additional partners such as charities or NGOs.

### **5.4. Intellectual Property**

The project partners must agree on how the IP will be managed between them

## **6. Format of proposals**

The proposals should include:

1. Background information
2. Outline Proposal (in not more than 10 pages in Point 12 Font)
3. Project Plan
4. Financial Projection Proforma

### **6.1. Background information:**

The proposals should include:

- Institutional background of UK and Turkish HEIs involved in the partnership, indicating previous relevant experience in this or related areas, including , where relevant with other overseas countries and institutions;
- Name with brief CV for the lead manager(s) to be involved in UK and Turkish HEIs
- Financial proposal setting out the full costs and income, including amount required through this British Council programme;
- Any additional comments to indicate your understanding of the requirements and approach to delivery of the services.

**6.2. Proposal Outline** (free text in not more than 10 pages in Point 12 Font) should include:

- Rationale for the proposed UK/Turkey partnership. Partners should be clear about the alignment of their proposal with the objectives of the programme outlined above, particularly in relation to sharing best practice and building capacity for industry collaboration with HE and research. Within the relevant sectors of agriculture, energy, food security, health and ICT, discipline areas/departments should be clarified.
  
- Detailed proposals for the first year including expected outputs. Proposed activity for the first year should be outlined along with intended outputs. Outputs may be tangible (bringing immediate benefits) or intermediate (requiring further activity to have a long-term effect). Tangible outputs in this context might include, for example:
  - joint research findings and publications
  - jointly developed degree and diploma programmes with industry involvement
  - jointly developed work placement or internship programmes
  - the Turkish partner establishing an infrastructure for technology transfer and commercial application of research

Intermediate outputs might include:

- proposals for external funding based on year one outputs
- policy and planning documents

The proposal should contain information about ways in which the outputs will be disseminated. Ways in which the first year experience will contribute to clarifying and defining the further continuation year should also be outlined briefly.

- Impact statement. Proposals should outline intended impact i.e. the difference the proposal is intended to make in the longer term and how this can be measured. This can include change in behaviour, attitude, skills, knowledge or situation. If activity is focusing, for example, on the practical application of research, impact can be measured by such indicators as:
  - Turkish universities' increasing their income from commercial sources
  - a change in the balance of basic and applied research in Turkish universities

- Turkish industry looking to its universities to meet their research and development needs.

Outputs in institutional policy, planning, management and administration are expected to lead to changes in systems.

- Information about the sustainability of the partnership. Partnerships are intended to be self-sustaining once established and are expected to achieve significant long-term impact that continues after the funding period. Proposals will include how the partnership will be sustained after British Council funding has ended. This may include robust proposals to leverage other sources of external funding.
- Financial plan proforma\*

The British Council will fund partnership between HEIs that support the development of industry collaboration with HE and research. It will not fund any activity directly relating to business or trade. We are keen to see some financial contribution from the institution partnerships in the form of match funding. Please include in your proposal indications on the level and type of contribution (this may be in-kind, and it will include staff time).

- These are examples of budget headings; please add further headings as relevant for your project costs.

BUDGET HEADING *	AMOUNT Year 1 (£'s sterling)			
	British Council	UK HEI	Turkish HEI	Other
Travel, accommodation and subsistence costs				
Workshop/seminar costs				
Short course / conference costs				
Printing and publishing costs				
Local travel costs				
Project equipment costs (Maximum of £2,500 per project)				
Other (please specify)				
Other (please specify)				
<b>TOTAL COSTS (For year 1 activities)</b>				

## 7. Activities that the funding will cover

CAN FUND	MAY BE CONSIDERED	CAN'T FUND
<p>International economy air travel between Turkey and the UK.</p> <p>Accommodation and local subsistence costs</p> <p>Travel to &amp; from the airport (UK, and Turkey)</p> <p>Local travel costs</p> <p>Insurance</p> <p>Visas (if essential for travel)</p> <p>Meetings, training events, seminars, conferences integral to partnership (including room hire, accommodation, travel &amp; subsistence for participants where appropriate)</p> <p>Stakeholder dissemination workshops (including room hire, accommodation, travel &amp; subsistence for participants where appropriate)</p> <p>Publications and associated printing costs, web pages development by in-house/external providers</p> <p>Essential project equipment (excluding books) up to a limit of £2,500 per project</p> <p>Project-specific consumables up to a limit of 20% of the grant per year</p> <p>Bank charges for transfer of funds to other partners by lead partner institution</p>	<p><i>For these types of activity to be funded applicants need to clearly illustrate the value of these proposed activities and how they are essential to the overall success of the project.</i></p> <p>Suitable short course fees for staff and associated living costs.</p> <p>Administrative costs in HE institutions up to £1,000 per year</p>	<p>Staff time and /or replacement costs for permanent members of staff in any partner HE institutions, salaries or Full Economic Costs (FECs)</p> <p>Consultancy fees</p> <p>Course fees for doctoral, graduate or undergraduate students</p> <p>Mobile phone rental or purchase</p> <p>Entertainment costs</p> <p>Any costs relating to third party conferences &amp; workshops</p> <p>Institutional overheads or recurrent costs</p> <p>Funding activities in and to countries other than partner countries in which the institutions are situated</p>

## **7.1 Conditions and restrictions of the grant funding**

Funding is pump prime and will be available up to a max of £25,000 per project, over 2 years in the first instance.

You are invited to bid for funding for one year in the first instance. Continuation funding will be awarded to those projects that are able to demonstrate success, including a potentially sustainable model. Projects will be evaluated and then continuation funding offered for year two.

## **7.2. Evaluation and Monitoring**

Funding for this project will be allocated on a one year basis in the first instance. It is assumed the continuation funding will be made available, but this is contingent upon receipt of a project report after six months. You will also be required to submit an extended report at the end of the first year (including financial report) demonstrating how far and in what ways the initial project objectives have been satisfactorily achieved and informing a proposal for a further years of partnership delivery.

Applications, monitoring and evaluation reports will be assessed by a steering committee comprising British Council and external experts. The Steering Committee will make recommendations for successful projects to the project board. The decision of the project board is final.

## **8. Criteria for Selection**

Each applicant should ensure that their project proposals meet the criteria set out in this section and sections 4 and 5. The principles underlying the assessment of proposals for the UK-Turkey Knowledge Partnership Programme projects will be:

1. The academic quality of the proposed collaboration, the institutions involved, and where appropriate the academic staff involved;
2. The likely impact on shared learning and capacity building in the area of industry collaboration with HE and research.
3. The likely impact on broadening and deepening the bases of cooperation between the UK and Turkey
4. The approach towards ensuring and sustaining this level of cooperation beyond the availability of British Council funding, including the potential for leveraging other sources of funding; and
5. The strategic importance to, and impact in, Turkey and the UK.
6. The benefits to both parties

7. Value for money;
8. The overall project objectives and anticipated impacts are clearly defined;
9. Activities are planned to deliver the impacts in the most effective way;
10. The proposals are submitted jointly by the Turkish Partner and UK institutions and have the formal support of the respective heads of institutions or delegated authority and any other participating institution.

## 9. Timelines

- Completed applications should be submitted electronically by **20<sup>th</sup> January 2012**.
- The partnership activity should commence before end March 2011 and have an initial delivery plan of no longer than 12 months.
- **Electronic copies to:**  
[highereducation@britishcouncil.org.tr](mailto:highereducation@britishcouncil.org.tr)
- **Please send all electronic copies in Word.**
- **Once submitted, we cannot accept any changes to the application.**
- **If you have any questions about your application please contact :**  
[highereducation@britishcouncil.org.tr](mailto:highereducation@britishcouncil.org.tr)