

FAQs

Pakistan-UK New Perspectives Arts and culture collaborations to celebrate Pakistan's 75th anniversary of Independence

October 2021

Eligibility

Are independent practitioners working in Pakistan or the UK, unaffiliated with any organisation eligible to apply?

Yes - The grant is open to registered organisations in Pakistan and the UK respectively as well as individual artists or practitioners with an active National Tax Number and demonstratable track record of handling this size of project and funding.

Which country partner needs to be lead partner?

The lead applicant must be a Pakistan based individual or entity. The lead applicant will submit the application, will represent all the parties of the collaboration, and execute the contract on behalf of all the collaborators for the Grant. The lead applicant will be responsible for all communications regarding the implementation and management of the funds received through the Grant.

Does the Pakistani partner need to be of Pakistani nationality?

No – However applicant must be based in Pakistan and either have a registered entity/organisation or must be an individual with an active National Tax Number

Is it necessary to apply with a partner/collaborator in the UK?

Yes - the proposal submitted must be co-developed by at least one Pakistan based partner and one UK based partner. This is the heart of *Pakistan-UK New Perspectives*.

What if I do not have any leads in the UK to collaborate and apply with?

Applicants will need to have UK based collaborators in place when submitting applications. **Can I apply for this open call if I have previously received funds from the British Council?**

Yes - You can apply to this grant if it is distinct from any previous funding received from the British Council. You will need to include a brief about any current or previous funding from the British Council in your application. Please note:

- Retrospective activity or costs are ineligible
- Match funding cannot be provided through other British Council funded programmes

Can I apply for this grant if I have recently applied for another British Council fund, but I haven't heard back yet or were unsuccessful?

Yes - You can apply for this open call if you haven't heard back yet or have been unsuccessful. However, please note that you will not be able to receive funding for the same or a similar project from other British Council sources.

If we have an existing project and would like to expand and evolve it, does it qualify for this open call?

Existing or ongoing projects can apply but only with a focus on adding new digital or public facing components for Pakistan-UK New Perspectives to the project. All such proposals must address the Pakistan-UK New Perspectives programme curation themes in response to the call.

If I work for more than one organisation, can I apply as a representative from both?

No - We will accept applications that demonstrate a partnership between one organisation in Pakistan and one organisation in the UK. You may choose which organisation you wish to represent in your application.

Is there a maximum number of partners that can apply as part of one proposal?

The proposal submitted must be co-developed by at least one lead Pakistan based partner and one UK based partner. You can have additional partners in the UK and Pakistan which you will need to list, detailing the different roles and expertise in the application.

Is there a maximum or ideal number of members to a proposed working team?

This is a matter for your judgement. It is important to demonstrate to the selection panel that the team, of whatever size, will be able to work together successfully and that you have specified the role that each member will play within the team.

Can the partner (Pakistan or UK) be a government organisation/autonomous agency of the government?

No – Funding bodies and government departments in Pakistan and the UK are ineligible.

As the Pakistani partner, do I need to have a registered organisation to apply?

Yes, all organisations/companies/institutions/artists must be registered and have a linked bank account and an active National Tax Number in Pakistan to apply for and be eligible for the grant. You will need to share all the required details as part of the application form.

Proposals

Are we permitted to submit more than one proposal and apply for more than one grant?

No. Each applicant can submit only one application. However, organisations or individuals can be involved in more than one application as additional partners, not as lead grant recipients, as we will not be able to fund the same organisation more than once.

Will there be some flexibility built into the project to cover the ongoing implications of Covid-19?

We are mindful of the ongoing implications of the global Covid-19 crisis, and this will be considered at every stage of the project. Please submit proposals for activity to take place between March and August 2022, and any legacy outcomes. If your proposed project timeline is delayed due to unforeseen circumstances caused by the pandemic, the British Council will review these with you and agree a new timeline. You should plan in the following timeframe:

- November 2021 to February 2022: planning and creation
- March 2022 to August 2022: public facing events, exhibitions and performances, face to face and digital

Please consider digital connectivity in areas with poor digital connectivity in some parts of Pakistan and specify any additional needs e.g., signal boosters, toolkits in your application form. Please make sure that any digital platforms used are secure and support audience development/reach.

What do you mean by hybrid/digital/virtual projects?

The fund is designed to foster international connections at a time when international travel may be restricted, and uncertainty of the Covid-19 pandemic persists. Considering this, we are supporting collaborative projects where organisations in Pakistan and the UK connect virtually with organisations overseas to deliver collaborative projects.

Under the current circumstances, it is expected that the development of the project with the UK partners would have to be done virtually and hence some of the planned outputs will also be delivered virtually and through digital channels. Part of the aim of this fund is also to support organisations in establishing a climate-friendly approach to international collaboration.

Is travel permitted and can I travel with this grant for face-to-face project activities?

Pakistan and the UK governments set their own travel restrictions. You will need to check prevailing UK and Pakistan government travel restrictions and consider quarantine laws when applying for VISAs in Pakistan and the UK. As this is a fund supporting blended approach, you are able to include face to face activities however it will be your responsibility to consider the most efficient channel to reach your planned impact. Consider digital formats of working. If you chose to include face to face activities in your proposal, it will be your responsibility to adhere to both governments' regulation and guidance on travel and work to ensure the safety for the public, your wellbeing, and associated collaborators.

Can all art forms/practices apply?

Yes. Grants are offered to applicants in all art forms: theatre, dance, visual arts, literature, film, music, design, fashion, craft, tech art and new media art except architecture. Cross-disciplinary practices are encouraged.

Can the proposal be for a multi-city project?

Yes. The project can include partners in different cities across Pakistan and the UK and hybrid delivery models across cities in both countries.

Can British Council support with additional funding?

British Council will not be able to support with any additional funding. Applicants are however encouraged to seek funding from other external sources. Please ensure that additional funding details (if any) such as personal accessibility needs are clearly mentioned in your proposal.

Can British Council help with access related costs?

We want to ensure people with access needs (for example, those who have a physical disability or mental health condition) can apply. If you need the application in a different format, please contact us so we can find a practical solution. If it is not possible for you to complete a written application online, you can record your answers on video, upload the clips on a digital platform and share the links to these with us.

In case you or your collaborator require extra access costs for you to deliver your project, please include them in your application in the estimated budget as ‘personal access costs.’ Please note that we cannot increase the size of a grant once it has been awarded.

What if the project plans to work with those under 18 or with vulnerable adults?

In the application form you will be able to declare if your project is planning to work with these groups. If you plan to, you then can provide details such as age group, do they have special vulnerabilities, how do you plan to work with them etc. If your project is selected, we will run a webinar for you on how to complete a risk assessment, the British Council’s child protection policy, and our adults at risk policy. You will need to sign these documents. For further reading, please see the British Council’s statement on safeguarding. <https://www.britishcouncil.in/safeguarding-policy>.

What sort of digital platform can I work with?

You can use any existing digital platforms available such as Zoom, Teams, Google Chat, YouTube, Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, gaming platforms etc. You can use your own platform too or create your own bespoke digital platform.

Successful applicant

What support can I expect as a successful applicant?

The British Council will

- Provide 3 to 5 grants of £25,000 each (inclusive of all applicable local taxes).

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- Expect project leads to consult the British Council Pakistan Arts team, our Marketing and Communications team, Equalities Diversity and Inclusion consultants, and Monitoring and Evaluation consultants on all relevant matters.
 - Hold regular meetings for updates and offer any advice as and when needed
 - If necessary, provide supporting letters for the VISA applications subject to travel guidance and COVID-19 protocols of the place. Please note that the grant recipient will be responsible for submitting the VISA application and any travel logistics including insurance

Will I need to submit reports and is there an evaluation process that needs to be undertaken

Yes, you will need to provide an interim project report at the end of February 2022 and a final project report at the end of August 2022 as per British Council's requirements. (Templates for the reports may be provided). Applicants must ensure they keep aside budget and timeframe for the reports. The British Council will require notification of any substantive changes to the project.

In the report we will need information such as actual audience engagement and reach, attendance numbers, feedback from the audience, key deliverables and how they were achieved, high-resolution pictures along with social media statistics. We will also require a project summary report, actual budget breakdown and any creative or physical technical assets created from the project.

Should you be selected, we will run a routine screening on your organisation. Awards will be made once you have cleared the screening.

Will I receive a contract?

Yes, the British Council will issue a grant contract to be signed by the lead applicant with associated mandatory deliverables and terms and conditions. The lead applicant will then be required to draft and sign a contract with their partner listing out their roles and responsibilities and financial costs to the project.

Which partner will receive the grant?

Both the Pakistan based lead partner and the UK based partner will receive parts of the grant as per the respective percentage proposed in the budget allocation in the application

Budget

The amount available is 25,000 GBP per grant only. This amount is inclusive of all applicable taxes and all costs. The lead application must clearly define the distribution of the grant between the Pakistan and UK partners as mutually decided at the time of project design. Both partners are expected to comply by the latest and most applicable financial regulations of the countries/states in which they reside.

What can I pay for with the grant?

The grant can cover any costs that allow you to undertake the project. This can include staff and logistical costs, digital platform costs, travel, expert fees, venues, data collection for evaluation, accessibility tools (translation, captions etc) promotion, equipment or materials, website/portal design, social media engagement etc. It's important that the budget is realistic for what you are proposing.

We also suggest that you include details of any in-kind support or any other external funding you may be receiving, such as someone waiving a fee, providing a cash donation, or giving you their time for free. This way we can get a clear idea of whether your budget is realistic.

How many projects are the British Council funding through this open call?

We intend to fund 3 to 5 projects of 25,000 GBP each led by Pakistan based artists or organisations but co-developed and delivered with their UK counterparts.

Does “inclusive of taxes” mean that the beneficiary must take care of any tax matters themselves and would not get extra money for that?

Yes. We will provide the successful applicant 25,000 GBP as a grant, inclusive of all applicable taxes. It is the responsibility of the applicants to cover any tax expenses, both in Pakistan and the UK. Please consider any such implications in your application and include them in your proposed budget.

If the project's overall budget exceeds the grant amount, should we show this in our application?

Applicants with in kind or matched support are welcome, although this is not essential. Where budgets are more than the available British Council grant, proposals must confirm on the application form how much additional funding is available (confirmed or pending) from which other external sources. Match funding cannot be provided through other British Council funded programmes. For budgets that exceed the grant amount, it is essential that you can cover the extra funds either through in-kind or cash contributions from your organisation or others. Please ensure this is mentioned in your “proposed budget” breakdown.

Will the grant funds be transferred in GBP to Pakistani applicants?

No. All successful Pakistan based lead applicants will receive the grant funds as an amount in PKR equivalent to the proposed amount in GBP, as per the British Council's internal book-keeping rate.

Submissions

How will my application be assessed?

Applications for grants will be evaluated by the Pakistan-UK New Perspectives selection panel. The decision of the assessment panel will be final.

How to apply?

- Complete the online application form via the [Microsoft Teams](#) platform [here](#)
- **Applications will close by 31 October 2021 at 2330 (PKT)**
- You will neither be able to save the application form nor return to it before your final submission, so please go through the briefing document and the FAQ's thoroughly before filling out the form. A sample form is available for download on the Open call document. We recommend you save your responses offline and then come to this application form once you are sure of your responses.

When will I hear if I am successful?

We will endeavour to inform all successful and unsuccessful applicants by **15 November 2021**.

Can I get feedback if my application was unsuccessful?

Unfortunately, due to the volume of applications we anticipate, we are unable to provide feedback to all applicants.

Am I able to download the application form for my review? Can I save the form in the middle of my application?

No, unfortunately, the platform on MS teams doesn't allow you to download or save your application form. You may download the pdf of the form and save your responses offline before accessing the form for your final submission.

For more information, sign up for our briefing sessions [here](#).