

## **Higher Education Partnerships Programme**

### **Enhancing the Sustainability of Technology Transfer and Research Management in Higher Education Institutions through strategic UK-Malaysia University Partnerships**

#### Call for Partnership Project Proposals from UK and Malaysian Higher Education Institutions

The British Council in Malaysia, in partnership with the Ministry of Education Malaysia, is calling for partnership proposals from UK and Malaysian higher education institutions which submitted Expressions of Interest to participate in the 2018/2020 Higher Education Partnership Programme: Enhancing the Sustainability of Technology Transfer and Research Management in Higher Education Institutions through strategic UK-Malaysia University Partnerships.

#### **1. Background**

As part of the British Council Higher Education Partnerships Programme for the year of 2018/2020, the British Council in Malaysia in partnership with the Ministry of Education Malaysia, is pursuing a project on enhancing the Sustainability of Technology Transfer and Research Management in Higher Education Institutions through strategic UK-Malaysia University Partnerships.

#### **2. Aim**

Our aim is to develop a small number of collaborative partnerships between higher education institutions (HEIs) in the UK and Malaysia, to share good practices and expertise in technology transfer. Selected partnerships will develop and undertake a range of activities in support of the overall aim, including:

- shared experience and capacity development of technology transfer, models and approaches;
- sector or thematic approaches that support technology transfer collaborations, based on strengths and assets within the UK and Malaysia.
- mechanisms to support better international uptake of emergent research and technologies from the UK and Malaysia;
- the development of links with industry partners of mutual interest and potential;

### **3. Scope**

This programme focuses on the development of partnerships between UK and Malaysian universities that can contribute to enhancing technology transfer practice and outcomes within a wider regulatory environment and industry engagement.

It follows the issuing of a Call for Expressions of Interest by the British Council, and responses from UK universities, as well as the selection of local Higher Education Institutions and relevant agencies by the Malaysian Ministry of Education, and a partnership planning workshop facilitated by an expert consultant and jointly organised by the British Council in Malaysia and the Ministry of Education, Malaysia.

### **4. Eligibility**

- Higher education institutions (HEIs) and research institutes in the UK which responded to the Call for Expressions of Interest (December 2018) by the British Council, and public or private universities in Malaysia which were invited to participate in the Partnership Planning Workshop (February 2019) are eligible to submit proposals in response to this call.
- The proposal must be submitted as a joint UK-Malaysia response after agreement with the respective project team members and institutions, with Lead Applicants identified from both the UK and Malaysian higher education institutions.
- Lead applicants may only submit one joint proposal, but may be involved as a member of the project team on other joint proposals submitted in response to this call
- The involvement of government and/or businesses/industries from either country in the proposed project and consortium application involving more than two partners will be viewed as demonstrating added value for the proposal.
- Additional eligibility requirements for Malaysian HEI applicants – Annex 1.

## **5. Funding**

The funding will be in the form of facilitation support to enable the undertaking of bespoke partnership activities between UK and Malaysian institutions, that achieve the aims stated in section (2) above. Selected partnership projects will be jointly supported by the British Council in Malaysia and the Ministry of Education Malaysia. The British Council in Malaysia will contribute up to a maximum of GBP 4000 for activity expenses borne by the UK HEI(s), and the Ministry of Education Malaysia will contribute up to a maximum of MYR 20,000 for activity expenses borne by the Malaysian HEI(s), for each successful partnership proposal. A joint committee will decide on the number of partnership projects to be supported, with a maximum of 10 joint projects for 2019/2020. The amount of the facilitation funding and the disbursement of funds will be based the respective financial processes of the British Council in Malaysia and the Ministry of Education and will be shared with successful applications. The full amount of the facilitation funding support is to be used for the project implementation.

## **6. Duration**

Partnership projects have a duration of 10 months and will run from **June 2019 until March 2020**

## **7. Outputs and Deliverables**

Any two (2) of the following outputs may be considered as key project deliverables:

- Academic writing (not an opinion piece), which may be published after project conclusion
- Industry engagement/links (as evidenced through a Letter of Agreement etc.)
- Strategy papers or innovative training modules which contribute to enhancing technology transfer practice and outcomes within a wider regulatory environment and industry engagement
- Other relevant outputs (to be specified and will be considered on a case by case basis)

## **8. Eligible Costs**

This facilitation funding is to support the development of the enabling environment, including capacity development and regulatory processes, that contribute to enhancing technology transfer and the commercialisation of research. This may include costs for travelling (subject to grant sufficiency and justification), attachment at partner's institution, collaborative activity,

procurement of essential supplies, materials and other costs which are relevant to the facilitation of the project.

The facilitation funding will NOT be approved for the following activities:

- Commercial development of a technology transfer activity or R&D product
- Staff costs (costs for temporary research assistants may be considered, subject to grant sufficiency and justification for approval)
- External consultants
- Seed funding for the development of commercial partnerships or joint programmes for Trans-National Education (TNE)
- Any other activities deemed to have a pre-dominantly commercial focus, as determined by the review panel

## **9. Assessment**

Each joint proposal will be considered by a review panel whose role will be to score projects against the assessment criteria, using an agreed scoring scheme. The evaluation criteria to be considered will include:

- Evidence of institutional support for engagement in the partnership (UK and Malaysian HEIs)
- Complementarity of the collaborating teams/institutions
- Alignment of activities with the overall Scope and Aim stated in (2) and (3) above
- Scale of resources that can be committed to the partnership activities
- Innovativeness of implementation
- Clarity of expected outputs and deliverables
- Value for money
- Potential for sustainability in developing the partnership in the longer term

## **10. Reporting**

The successful partnership projects will be subjected to a mid-project review which will be done virtually and will be required to submit a mid-project activity report. A final report will need to be submitted within one month after upon conclusion of the project (April 2020). This final report will focus on the extent to which the activities achieved the objectives, detail the delivery of expected outputs and outline the prospects for further collaboration.

## **11. Equality, diversity and inclusion and Code of responsible conduct**

Equality, diversity and inclusion are at the heart of the British Council's cultural relations ambitions. They contribute to the mutual trust, respect and understanding we strive for on behalf of the UK. British Council's Equality Policy commits us to ensure that there is no unjustified discrimination in people on the basis of age, gender, disability, religion and belief, sexual orientation, ethnicity, and work-life balance. All projects undertaken by lead and implementing partners must not contravene this policy. All projects should also adhere to the guidelines stipulated under the [Malaysian Code of Responsible Conduct in Research](#).

## **12. Applications**

Eligible applicants are invited to submit a joint proposal in response to this call via email by **27 May 2019 (17:00 GMT+8)**.

Upon review and selection, announcements will be made to all applicants by **31 May 2019 (17:00 GMT+8)**, so that selected partnership activities may commence in June 2019.

Applications must be completed in the attached Higher Education Partnership Proposal Application Form and the Activity-Based Budget Template, and must include detailed information on the following:

- Objectives and methodology
- Composition and complementarities of the joint partnerships team
- Expected outputs and outcomes to support the aims and scope set out in sections (2) and (3) above
- Projected activity timeline for implementation
- Cost breakdown for each activity

**Applications must be sent to:**

British Council:

Prabha Sundram, Head of Education, [Prabha.Sundram@britishcouncil.org.my](mailto:Prabha.Sundram@britishcouncil.org.my)

Syauqi Azman, Education & Society Program Officer, [Syauqi.Azman@britishcouncil.org.my](mailto:Syauqi.Azman@britishcouncil.org.my)

**And copied to:**

Department of Higher Education, Ministry of Education Malaysia

Siti Fazlina Mohd. Sani, Senior Assistant Director, [sfazlina.msani@moe.gov.my](mailto:sfazlina.msani@moe.gov.my)

Nor Amira Farhana Ahmad Zailani, Assistant Director, [amira.zailani@moe.gov.my](mailto:amira.zailani@moe.gov.my)

**Please also refer to:**

Annex 1

Additional Eligibility Criteria for Malaysian HEI Applicants

Annex 2

Data Protection

## Annex 1

### **Additional Eligibility Criteria for Malaysian HEI Applicants**

1. Applicants must be Malaysian citizens and hold a permanent or fixed-term contract (minimum one-year term) in an eligible university. Applicants with fixed-term contracts finishing before the project end-date must secure confirmation from their Head of Department, stating that their contract will be expended to cover the duration of the project if their application is successful.
2. Contact between the Malaysian Lead Applicant and the UK Lead Applicant prior to the application is essential. This contact should lead to a clearly defined and mutually beneficial partnership project proposal.
3. The Malaysian Lead Applicant's employing organisation must be willing to agree to administer the funding contributed by Ministry of Education Malaysia, if their application is successful.
4. Malaysian applicants will need to adhere to the Ministry of Education Malaysia's progress and outcomes monitoring requirements.

## Annex 2

### **Data Protection**

Please note that the British Council will use the information that you are providing for the purposes of processing your application, making any awards, monitoring and review of any award. We shall share any necessary data on your application with the Ministry of Education in Malaysia in order to assist with management of the application process; any decisions on partnerships will be made in collaboration with them.

Organisation details, where collected, are used for monitoring and evaluation and statistical purposes. Gender information, where collected, is used solely in preparing statistical reports. The British Council collects country of origin for reporting and statistical purposes and to contact you within your own country.

British Council complies with data protection law in the UK and laws in other countries that meet internationally accepted standards. 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 have concerns about how we have used your personal information, you also have the right to complain to a privacy regulator. For detailed information, please refer to the privacy section of our website, [www.britishcouncil.org/privacy](http://www.britishcouncil.org/privacy) or contact your local British Council office. We will keep your information for a period of 7 years from the time of collection.