

**Going Global Partnerships**

# **Grant Call Guidance Notes**

**Advancing TVET partnership  
through employer led skills  
secretariat**

**Call Open: 11 June 2026 to 05 July 2026**

# Going Global Partnerships

[Going Global Partnerships](#) builds stronger, more inclusive, internationally connected Higher Education (HE) and Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) systems. |

Through international partnerships, system collaborations and opportunities to connect and share, we enable stronger transnational education, more collaborative research, higher quality delivery, enhanced learner outcomes and stronger, internationalised, equitable and inclusive systems and institutions. |

We help to strengthen higher education and TVET in five core areas: |

*Enabling research* – supporting research, knowledge and innovation collaborations to address local and global challenges and promote inclusive growth. |

*Internationalising higher education and TVET* – supporting systems, institutions and individuals to benefit from internationalisation, including enabling transnational education and system alignment. |

*Strengthening systems and institutions* – improving the quality and efficiency of higher education and TVET institutions and systems. |

*Enhancing learner outcomes* – addressing the qualities of the global graduate, including soft skills, employability and community outcomes. |

*Increasing equality, diversity and inclusion* – making higher education and TVET more accessible, equitable and accountable. |

# Grant opportunity to implement TVET partnership through employer led skills secretariat

Value of Grant	Up to NPR 42,00,000.00 for period of 15 July 2026 to May 2027, with possibility of costed extension
Deadline for application	05 July 2026
Contact for requesting clarification and submission of application	consultant@britishcouncil.org.np

## British Council Nepal

The British Council is the UK’s international organisation for cultural relations and educational opportunities. We support peace and prosperity by building connections, understanding and trust between people in the UK and countries worldwide. Through our arts, education and English programmes, we give opportunities to millions of people worldwide each year. We are on the ground in six continents and over 100 countries.

The British Council has been present in Nepal since 1959. School education, Technical Vocational Education and Training (TVET), English language, youth development, internationalising higher education, and arts & culture are British Council priorities in Nepal. In Nepal, the British Council has supported both the private and public sectors to improve the quality and relevance of TVET. Partnerships lie at the core of our TVET work, where we have played a catalytic role in developing and implementing public–private engagement models.

Our TVET initiatives contribute to the Government of Nepal’s goal of producing skilled human resources for sustainable development and a prosperous Nepal. We collaborate with government bodies, the private sector, and training providers to strengthen the relevance, inclusivity, and quality of TVET systems, particularly through public–private partnerships and a focus on green skills.

## About the British Council’s TVET priorities in Nepal

British Council’s Going Global Partnerships programme TVET (GGP TVET) was launched to support TVET partnerships that support quality improvement and internationalisation of TVET. GGP TVET has been contributing to the outcome of “improved quality and efficiency of TVET systems and institutions, aligned to labour market needs” working with TVET stakeholders in various countries, including government and the private sector.

The GGP TVET in Nepal has been building on the achievements of the EU-funded TVET Practical Partnerships Programme (comprising the Council for Technical Education and Vocational Training, CTEVT, implemented grant project and British Council Nepal implemented Dakchyata TVET Practical Partnerships<sup>1</sup>), achievements of other TVET projects in Nepal, and good practices from private sector-driven TVET models. Through the EU-supported TVET Practical Partnership programme and British Council partnerships, our TVET work has focused on sector system

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.dakchyata-nepal.org/about>  
www.britishcouncil.org

strengthening by institutionalising public-private partnerships. Our work has supported an attitudinal shift among the private and public sectors in Nepal to forge new partnerships. We have supported TVET partnership forums at both national and sub-national levels, including an Employer Led Labour Market Secretariat (ELMS),<sup>2</sup> which brought together five leading private sector federations to work with the public sector. Our TVET Practical Partnership pilots generated insights and learnings which contributed to TVET partnership policies, with our work also supporting the development of the Nepalese government's ten-year TVET strategic plan.

Building on the legacies of the Dakchyata project, the GGP TVET programme in Nepal has been generating evidence, sustaining key achievements in practical partnership in TVET, and conducting policy dialogues for informing TVET sector policy reforms.

## ***Current programme objectives for GGP TVET Nepal***

The overall objective is to support Nepal's TVET system by strengthening government-employer engagement at national and sub-national levels, institutionalising green skills concepts and work-based training modalities, and enhancing the capacities of public and private stakeholders.

Programme outcomes

**Outcome 1:** Support to institutionalise green skills and work-based training

**Outcome 2:** Support to institutionalise employer / private sector engagement in national and sub-national levels

**Outcome 3:** Capacity building and policy dialogue for public and private stakeholders for TVET system strengthening

## **About the Grant**

The British Council has been partnering with private sector associations, led by the Federation of Nepalese Chambers of Commerce and Industries (FNCCI) as a grant partner, through a grant project called "**TVET Partnership through Employer-led Skills Secretariat**". It is a project to promote private sector employer engagement and leadership in TVET. The grant supports our partnership with the private sector to strengthen employer-led skills systems, expand sustainable public-private partnerships, and ensure that TVET delivery remains responsive to labour market needs.

During March 2023 to June 2026, the programme has provided technical and financial assistance to further strengthen public private partnerships in the TVET sector, particularly in (i) partnering with the government and the private sector to support TVET partnership initiatives; (ii) amplifying the outcomes of the ELMS project by supporting employer led agenda in TVET; (iii) expanding Public Private Partnership on green TVET by supporting to establish and operationalise a Green Skills Advisory board (GSAB) at national level; (iv) capacity building of TVET stakeholders through International Skills Partnership (ISP) with UK organisations<sup>3</sup>; (v) piloting work based training models in Bharatpur metropolitan city and Dhangadhi Sub-metropolitan city; and (vi) convening policy dialogues and research to inform TVET sector reforms.

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<sup>2</sup> ELMS was led by Federation of Nepalese Chambers of Commerce and Industries (FNCCI), along with Confederation of Nepalese Industries (CNI), Federation of Nepalese Cottage and Small Industries (FNCSI), Hotel Association of Nepal (HAN), and Federation of Contractor's Association of Nepal (FCAN).

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.britishcouncil.org/education/skills-employability/programmes/international-skills-partnerships>  
www.britishcouncil.org

For the new iteration of the grant named “**Advancing TVET Partnership through Employer-led Skills Secretariat**”, we are inviting grant applications from eligible not-for-profit Nepali organisations including relevant private sector federations and sectoral associations working in TVET partnerships. The grant project will be implemented for the period of 15 July 2026 to May 2027, with a possibility of a costed extension.

## Key Scope/ Outputs for July 2026 to May 2027

To sustain and build on the achievements from the previous grant phase, the new grant will focus on the following outputs and activities for the period of July 2026 to May 2027.

### TVET sector policy dialogues for National TVET policy paper

- **Establishment of a multi-stakeholder working group** comprising public and private sector stakeholders like the Ministry of Education and Sports (MOES), Ministry of Youth Labour and Employment (MOYLE), National Planning Commission (NPC), CTEVT, and National Academy for Vocational Training (NAVT) to guide policy dialogues and policy paper development.
- **Conduct two thematic and/or sub-national policy dialogues** to gather evidence, stakeholder perspectives, and regional priorities, leading to a national-level policy dialogue.
- **Organise one national-level policy dialogue** to consolidate inputs from the thematic/ sub-national policy dialogues and inform the development of an employer-engaged, gender-responsive, holistic TVET policy framework. The policy dialogues will build on TVET sector analysis, which will be commissioned separately by the British Council. British Council will provide expert facilitator(s) for the policy dialogues.
- **Coordinate development and finalisation of policy recommendations** in collaboration with the working group and handover to the government.

### Employer-led green occupation curriculum delivered

- **Identify priority green occupation (including possible digital occupation)** in consultation with the Green Skills Advisory Board (GSAB) and Provincial TVET PPP Working Group.
- **Manage revision or development** of occupational standards and curricula for at least one green occupation, and/or develop a teacher resource material using an employer-led approach, with support from the International Skills Partnership (ISP). The British Council will separately select an ISP partner as well as consultant to support the process.
- **Pilot the developed curriculum** through a work-based training modality.

## **International Skills Partnership (ISP)<sup>4</sup> between the UK and Nepal, focusing on capacity building on work-based training and green skills partnerships**

The grant partner will act as a national partner to UK ISP partner. ISP has been in implementation in Nepal since last two years and a new ISP team<sup>5</sup> will be in place by August 2026. The grant partner will support ISP in delivering:

- **Support ISP collaborations between the UK and Nepal** to further support the operationalisation of the Green Skills Advisory Board (GSAB), implementation of green curriculum pilots, and expansion of work-based training models.
- **Support to strengthen private sector engagement in TVET** through mentoring, webinars, and other targeted capacity-building activities offered separately through ISP.

### **National and sub-national TVET public-private engagement forum strengthened**

- **Provide continued support to the joint private sector TVET engagement initiative**, like the TVET Industry Council or ELMS, to enhance sustainable industry leadership and coordination in the sector.
- **Continue supporting the PPP Working Group in Madhesh Province** to strengthen its role in facilitating the implementation of work-based training guidelines.
- **Serve as the secretariat** for the national Green Skills Advisory Board (GSAB).
- **Establish and operationalise** a TVET Public–Private Partnership Working Group in an additional province.

## **Roles and responsibilities**

The selected grant partner will have a full responsibility for implementing the project activities based on the provisions of the grant agreement. The grant partner will report to the British Council on progress of the project, results achieved, and lessons learnt. Any changes to the project activity and budget will be agreed with British Council in advance. Project activities and outputs funded from the British Council grant will acknowledge British Council support and use proper branding using British Council logo.

The grant implementing partner will be responsible for:

- Coordination to ensure active engagement of leading private sector associations like FNCCI, CNI, FNCSI, HAN and FCAN.
- Implementation and management of activities under the project ToR.
- Act as a national partner in International Skills Partnership (ISP) with UK organisation (s).
- Assume secretariat role for GSAB and facilitate provincial TVET PPP working group activities.
- Provide dedicated and effective project management to ensure timely delivery of activities and achievements of grant objectives.

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<sup>4</sup> <https://www.britishcouncil.org/education/skills-employability/programmes/international-skills-partnerships>

<sup>5</sup> <https://opportunities-insight.britishcouncil.org/short-articles/opportunities/international-skills-partnership-opportunity-nepal>

- Report to the British Council on project progress, including one midterm narrative and financial report, one final narrative and financial report, and ad hoc reports. Provide British Council reports against the M&E framework for the project.

British Council will be responsible for:

- Funding the grant partnership project.
- Overall monitoring of the project.
- Advisory support for project implementation.
- Providing feedback on project progress,

## Eligibility criteria for Institutions

Applications must fulfil the following criteria to be eligible for funding under this call:

### ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

The institution must be one of the following<sup>6</sup>:

- Not-for-profit private sector federation or industry association working in the area of TVET partnership.
- Not-for-profit organisations working in the area of public-private partnership in TVET

## Target geographic focus and beneficiaries

- Kathmandu (for any federal-level activities).
- At least two provinces – Madhesh and one additional province to be identified later.

## Funding

The total grant budget pool for Grant Partner/s is up to NRs. 42,00,000

Applicants submitting a grant application should not exceed this budget amount. The expenses incurred by the organisation before the effective start date, including any costs incurred in the production of the application, cannot be charged. To ensure value for money, the budget requested in your application should cover only costs that are essential, appropriate, and relevant to the implementation of activities. The overhead cost that can be charged cannot exceed five per cent (5%) of the total direct project cost.

Applicants may be asked to adjust their budget if their request does not fit within funding guidelines or if this is considered not appropriate or categorically misaligned by the application reviewers. Partners are required to account for how funding has been spent by completing financial reports (interim and final), providing receipts/evidence of payments, and evidence of staff time. Partners must retain all receipts and implementation documentation for seven years after project closure.

<sup>6</sup> Grant application may be submitted in partnership with more than one organisation and such applications will be highly encouraged.

In the scenario that additional funding becomes available at the end of the period set out within the Grant Agreement, subject to British Council processes and approvals, the partnership may be extended.

A co-financing contribution of around 5% or more of the value of the grant is highly encouraged. This may be in-kind/from the partner's own resources and/or financial contributions from third parties.

The grant partner may budget for following type of cost (non-exhaustive list):

- Human resources cost for grant management, stakeholder management and managing grant activities
- Necessary travel and accommodation
- Cost for organizing two thematic / sub-national and one national level policy dialogues
- Cost for meetings of working groups
- Administrative cost for standard and/or curriculum development or revision
- Cost for piloting short term work-based training for up to 25 participants
- Cost for administering GSAB, joint private sector forum / institution, and working groups

## Ethics

It is essential that all legal and professional codes of practice are followed in conducting work supported by this call. Applicants must ensure the proposed activity will be carried out to the highest standards of ethics and research integrity.

In the application form, applicants must clearly articulate how any potential ethical and health and safety issues have been considered and how they will be addressed, ensuring that all necessary ethical approval is in place before the project commences and all risks are minimised.

## Safeguarding and protecting adults at risk

The British Council is committed to safeguarding children and adults at risk and to upholding their rights in accordance with all applicable legislation and statutory guidance. As part of that commitment, we require that all staff, and those we work with, including partners and suppliers, operate within our Safeguarding Policy, which articulates our approach to protecting children and adults at risk and promoting their wellbeing.

We have robust systems and procedures in place to both prevent incidents (covering, for example, the recruitment of appropriate staff, training and support given so that staff can work safely, and standards regarding the way in which we carry out activities) together with responsive actions necessary to address situations where we become aware that a child or an adult at risk may have been harmed. As part of our policy, all countries have a named Safeguarding Focal Point (SFP) who is supported by a Regional Safeguarding Manager (RSM) and the British Council Safeguarding Team.

For further information please see: <https://www.britishcouncil.org/about-us/how-we-work/policies/safeguarding>

## Privacy Notice

The British Council and UK partners comply with UK GDPR and the UK Data Protection Act 2018 and data protection laws in other countries that meet internationally accepted standards. The

British Council will use the information that you provide for the purposes of processing your application, making any awards and the monitoring & review of any grants. The legal basis for processing your information is agreement with our terms and conditions of application (contract).

Organisation details, where collected, are used for monitoring and evaluation and statistical purposes. Gender information and country of origin, where collected, is used solely for statistical purposes. If we need to contact you, we will do so using the contact details you have provided.

Under UK Data Protection law, 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 want more information about this, please contact your local British Council office or see our website: <http://www.britishcouncil.org/privacy-cookies/data-protection>. We will keep your information for a period of seven years after the project.

## Application Process and Documentation

Interested eligible applicants must apply in the prescribed format. All submissions must be sent in soft copies to [consultant@britishcouncil.org.np](mailto:consultant@britishcouncil.org.np) by 17:30 on **05 July 2026**. Please include “**Application for GGP TVET Nepal Implementation Partner**” in the title of the e-mail.

If you have any questions regarding the submission of the application, please contact [consultant@britishcouncil.org.np](mailto:consultant@britishcouncil.org.np) no later than 17:00 Nepal Standard Time on 21 June 2026. Clarification responses will be published on the British Council's website by 24 June 2026.

The British Council is under no obligation to consider any clarifications / amendments to the Grant Agreement requested following the application deadline. Due to the volume of applications we receive, any application received after the specified deadline will be considered **ineligible**.

## Gender and EDI Impact

Applicants are encouraged to ensure equal opportunities in the team's implementation of their proposed activity. Applicants may apply for additional funding to cover any specific requirements necessary to ensure full participation, which will be considered on a case-by-case basis and dependent on the funding available.

Please contact us for further information on the British Council's approach. See our Equality Policy here: <https://www.britishcouncil.org/about-us/our-values/equality-diversity-inclusion>

To comply with the International Development (Gender Equality) Act 2014, applications must outline how they have taken meaningful yet proportionate consideration as to how the project will contribute to reducing gender inequalities in the Gender Equality Impact section of the application form.

Applicants should consider the key gender equality issues that are relevant to the proposed project and how it will contribute to addressing these. They should consider what measures will be put in place to ensure equal and meaningful opportunities for women, girls, and minority genders, including project design and team composition as well as activities and outcomes.

British Council reserves the right to reject the application if no consideration has been given to gender equality or if the proposal is assessed to result in a negative impact on gender equality.

## Assessment Criteria

<b>Possible criteria</b>	<b>Weight %</b>
<p data-bbox="105 226 925 271"><b>Organisational Strength and Experience</b></p> <p data-bbox="105 293 1212 360">Institutional experience in similar projects and on TVET engagement involving public-private partnerships.</p> <p data-bbox="105 383 954 416">Prior experience and capacity of project/grant management</p> <p data-bbox="105 439 1212 506">The applicant has a network and capability to institutionalize collective private sector federations' engagement in TVET.</p>	30%
<p data-bbox="105 544 791 589"><b>Technical Quality and Application</b></p> <p data-bbox="105 611 887 645">A clear understanding of the scope of the grant partner</p> <p data-bbox="105 667 916 701">Quality of approach and methodology for implementation</p> <p data-bbox="105 723 1078 790">The applicant shows consideration for sustainability of private sector engagement in TVET through joint private sector initiatives.</p>	40%
<p data-bbox="105 819 539 864"><b>Finance and Budgets</b></p> <p data-bbox="105 887 1161 954">Clarity and relevancy of budget, and reflection of market value / offering value for money</p> <p data-bbox="105 976 536 1010">Ratio of co-financing contribution</p>	30%
<p data-bbox="105 1037 580 1081"><b>Gender and EDI Impact</b></p> <p data-bbox="105 1104 1200 1216">The project approach includes measures to ensure equal and meaningful opportunities for women, girls, and minority genders, including project design and team composition as well as activities and outcomes.</p> <p data-bbox="105 1238 1248 1339">The project may include additional Equality, Diversity and Inclusion aspects (e.g. age, disability, race/ethnicity, religion/belief, sexual orientation and socio-economic background)</p>	Assessed as part of initial screening
<p data-bbox="105 1373 1011 1462"><b>Environmental Impact, Ethics and Economic Development Relevance</b></p> <p data-bbox="105 1485 1165 1552">Proposed activities will contribute to the economic development and social welfare of the overseas country.</p> <p data-bbox="105 1574 1248 1641">The application gives due consideration to the impact of the proposed project on the climate and environment and steps to mitigate negative impact.</p> <p data-bbox="105 1664 1107 1731">The application considers how the project will operate to strong ethical standards and responsible conduct.</p> <p data-bbox="105 1753 1101 1821">The proposed project plans against possible issues around ethics and health and safety.</p>	Assessed as part of initial screening
<p data-bbox="105 1865 264 1910"><b>Scoring</b></p>	
<p data-bbox="105 1933 363 1966">0 - UNACCEPTABLE</p> <p data-bbox="105 1977 1452 2045">The response is non-compliant with the requirements set out in the tender document and/or no response has been provided.</p>	

### 3 - POOR

The response does not demonstrate that the bidder meets the requirement in one or more areas. This, therefore, is a poor response with significant ambiguity as to whether the bidder can meet the requirement due to the failure by the bidder to show that it meets one or more areas of the requirement.

### 5 - ADEQUATE

Overall the response demonstrates that the bidder meets all areas of the requirement, but not all of the areas of evidence requested have been provided. This, therefore, is an adequate response, but with some limited ambiguity as to whether the bidder can meet the requirement due to the bidder's failure to provide all the evidence requested.

### 7 - GOOD

Overall the response demonstrates that the bidder meets all areas of the requirement and provides all the areas of evidence requested but contains some trivial omissions in relation to the level of detail requested in terms of either the response or the evidence. This, therefore, is a good response that meets all aspects of the requirement with only a trivial level ambiguity due the bidder's failure to provide all information at the level of detail requested.

### 10 - EXCELLENT

Overall the response demonstrates that the bidder meets all areas of the requirement and provides all the areas of evidence requested in the level of detail requested. This, therefore, is a detailed excellent response that meets all aspects of the requirement leaving no ambiguity as to whether the bidder can meet the requirement.

## Target outcomes of the British Council's skills work

In assessing your project approach within your application, consideration will be given as to the extent to which the proposed project is likely to deliver against the target outcomes of the British Council's skills work:

- The establishment of an active joint network and/or institution of employers, employer representative organisations and other skills stakeholders
- Improvement of knowledge and understanding of effective approaches to skills development
- Young people are better prepared for the world of work
- Understanding and recognition of the benefits of working internationally and how to do this effectively is increased
- New approaches to skills development are implemented at institution/ organisation level
- Policy changes and/or new approaches to skills development are implemented at national and/or system level
- Higher quality skills that meet industry needs are developed.

# Key Milestones

<b>Deadline for applications</b>	05 July 2026
<b>Date for sending queries for clarification</b>	21 June 2026
<b>Date for responses to be posted in British Council website</b> <a href="https://www.britishcouncil.org.np/">(https://www.britishcouncil.org.np/)</a>	24 June 2026
<b>Results announcement</b>	10 July 2026
<b>Contracts signed</b>	14 July 2026
<b>Period of grant payments</b>	15 July 2026 – 31 May 2027

*\*All dates may be subject to change if the call receives significantly more applications than expected.*

## Applicant Screening

In order to comply with UK government legislation, the British Council may at any point during the application process, carry out searches of relevant third-party screening databases to ensure that neither the applicant institutions nor any of the applicants' employees, partners, directors, shareholders are listed:

- as an individual or entity with whom national or supranational bodies have decreed organisations should not have financial dealings;
- as being wanted by Interpol or any national law enforcement body in connection with crime;
- as being subject to regulatory action by a national or international enforcement body;
- as being subject to export, trade or procurement controls or (in the case of an individual) as being disqualified from being a company director; and/or
- as being a heightened risk individual or organisation, or (in the case of an individual) a politically exposed person.

If the applicant or any other party is listed in a Screening Database for any of the reasons set out above, the British Council will assess the applicant as ineligible to apply for this grant call. The applicant must provide the British Council with all information reasonably requested by the British Council to complete the screening searches.