

Call for applications

The British Council and the UK Science and Innovation Network in Israel are pleased to invite proposals for an academic regional collaborative water research programme.

The following notes provide guidance on eligibility and conditions upon which the grants are issued. Applicants are required to complete one [application form online](#) in accordance with the guidance notes here and follow any instructions provided on the application form.

Aims of the scheme

The Programme aims to strengthen collaboration between the research institutions in the UK, Israel, and the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region in the field of water research.

The programme will fund **grant/s for UK, Israel, and the MENA region collaboration** of £20,000 to £55,000 that meet the following criteria.

- Projects should:
 - **Promote collaborative research** at the planning stage by, for example, creating new networks, and collaborating on grant submissions and funding opportunities; or
 - **Facilitate research** through projects such as (virtual or face-to-face) meetings, symposia, conferences, new collaborations and sharing research facilities; or
 - **Apply research** via activities including policy work, technology transfer and collaborations with industry and third sector organisations; or
 - **Communicate academic research** to students, public audiences and other relevant groups with, for example, shared courses and teaching programmes, and public activities.
- Projects must fit one or more of the themes of **water research**, including but not limited to: research pertaining to irrigation, water purification, groundwater studies, sanitation, biological and physicochemical water and wastewater treatment, food security, education, monitoring, climate change adaptation as it pertains to water resources.
- Grants will not fund research (see funding section, below).
- Projects must involve applicants from the UK, Israel and a country from the MENA Region.

Eligibility

Proposals must include the details of the UK, Israeli and MENA country lead applicants who will act as co-holders of the grant. The application itself is submitted only once by the primary applicant. The primary applicant submitting the application will be the either the UK or the Israeli researcher and the grant will be paid to their institution.

In some cases, not for profit or NGO organisations can be a “Primary applicant”, rather than an “Associated” partner in these Applications, where such an organisation has a particular capacity and/or skill that is not accessible elsewhere.

Israel and UK applicants must have the full support of their institution. Applicants from other MENA countries may apply without the written support of their institutions.

Higher education institutions in Israel and the UK must be officially recognised by both countries.

Multiple applications from institutions are acceptable; however, the same partners may submit only one application.

Projects must be completed by 31 March 2024.

Application process

The application form is available [online](#).

For all inquiries, please e-mail israelscience@britishcouncil.org.

Deadlines and timings

Deadline for application is **15 October 2022**

Responses sent out: by **31 October 2022**

Deadline for completion of projects: **31 March 2024**

Assessment

Applications are assessed by a Selection Board. The Selection Board’s decision is final and confidential. No appeals will be considered. The British Council is unable to enter into any communication on the Selection Board’s decisions. Feedback will not be provided to unsuccessful applicants.

The Board will evaluate applications using the following criteria:

- **Quality of the scientific content of the proposed activity:** depth, content, clarity and uniqueness of the symposium/workshop.
- **Value of collaboration:** must demonstrate the added value in the UK-Israel scientific relations.
- **Outcomes and follow ups:** an outline for potential follow up steps following the event(s). Applicants must demonstrate that the activities proposed in their application will lead to a tangible and feasible outcome, for example a report of the event, publications, concrete research collaboration, or bid for grant/call for proposals.
- **Effectiveness and feasibility:** must demonstrate how the proposed activities are feasible within the given time and budget constraints.

Funding

The total funding available for the call is **£55,000**. We expect to fund one to three projects.

Applicants may apply for grants £20,000 – £55,000.

Grants are subject to approval of the budget submitted. The **budget must be uploaded as a separate document** to the online platform, and detail all projected expenses clearly, with reasoning for each expense.

Co-funding can be demonstrated in-cash and in in-kind contributions and include (but are not limited to): venue hire, flights, accommodation, design transportation, advisory services, working hours of staff involved in planning of the event.

Upon signing a contract, 80% of the funds will be released to the principal applicants. 20% of the funding will be released on submission of final narrative and financial reports, up to 30 days after project completion.

All payments will be made to the primary applicant's institution.

Inadmissible costs:

- Research costs (including research materials or equipment);
- Student fees and/or stipends;
- Contributions towards academic salaries or pension costs.

Admissible costs include, for example:

- Travel and accommodation;
- Costs relating to hosting or participating in events;
- Licensing costs, administrative costs and fees;
- Institutional overheads of up to 10% of the value of the grant.

This is not an exhaustive list. Other costs are eligible for funding as long as they meet the aims of the project, as described above.

Responsibilities of the Grantees

Grantees will provide the British Council with a report of their activity within 30 days of concluding the programme. A final report template will be sent to successful applicants and will include a short online survey, and financial and a narrative segment.

The British Council and the Science and Innovation Network should be acknowledged in all communication materials and pertinent publications, including the presentation of their logos.

Grantees will be expected to:

- Support the activity of the Science and Innovation Network and the British Council Israel;
- Attend Science and Innovation Network/British Council events, where relevant;
- Be available for press and media work;
- Inform the British Council of any substantive changes to the project.

Other Compliance Matters

All partner institutions must be recognised by the UK.

Submitting the application form constitutes confirmation that the information provided is complete and accurate, and acceptance of all terms, conditions and notices contained in the Guidelines for Applicants. Subsequent discovery of any deliberate misrepresentation will automatically render the application null and void. If an award has been made, the British Council will require a full refund.

Privacy notice

The British Council is the Data Controller of the information that you provide as part of your participation in the Regional Water Research programme. This means that the British Council is responsible for determining how your information is collected and used.

The legal basis for collecting your data is that the processing is necessary for the administration of your application for the Regional Water Research programme.

By submitting your application, you understand that your information may be shared with our partners for these purposes awarding and administering the grant:

- The UK Science and Innovation Network
- The Department for Business Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS)

The British Council complies with data protection law in the UK and laws in other countries that meet internationally accepted standards. Other than for the purposes mentioned herein, your personal data will not be shared outside the British Council without your explicit permission.

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, or contact the British Council Israel office, israelscience@britishcouncil.org.

We will keep your information for a period of 7 years from the time of collection.

Equal Opportunities and Diversity

The British Council is committed to a policy of Equal Opportunities and we welcome applications from all sections of society. All applications will be evaluated solely on the basis of the award criteria as listed above.