

Climate Futures South Asia

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

What type of projects will be considered?

Climate Futures South Asia is a programme by the British Council to support climate action in the creative industries. This new programme is supporting the arts sector through grants, mentorship, research, and knowledge exchanges between the UK and South Asia.

The grant aims to empower the arts community to contribute to climate action and sustainability through innovative and impactful projects.

Examples of successful projects could include (But are not limited to):

- **Artist-led initiatives that promote knowledge creation and sustainability in the cultural sector.**
 - Visual Arts installations that raise awareness about communities impacted by climate change and inspire a call to action.
 - Literature/publications featuring thought leadership, insight pieces, innovative research on the impact of climate change.
 - Digital platforms/toolkits promoting sustainability in the cultural sector that can be replicated across the arts landscape.
 - Projects centred around the circular economy.
 - Projects that use the arts as a catalyst for creating knowledge and exploring solutions for climate change in an innovative way.
 - Exhibitions, Roundtable conferences, Hackathons, Research activities that explore a particular theme addressing climate change.
- **Designing and implementing a sustainability strategy or process for your organisation including capacity building initiatives.**
 - Conducting carbon emissions audits for your creative enterprise
 - Training and capacity building for your employees in sustainability or climate sensitivity
 - Developing carbon measurement frameworks, recycling schemes
- **Optimising infrastructure to enhance climate change awareness and sustainable approaches within the arts sector.**
 - Developing green spaces in your venues to raise awareness about climate change and make an impact on your target communities.

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- Dissemination of toolkits and resources relevant to the optimisation of infrastructure in your venues.
 - Implementation of sustainability practices or reimagining spaces at one off events like festivals or performing arts venues.
 - Architectural inputs that demonstrate innovative approaches to incorporating sustainability in your venues.

We are looking for projects that empower the arts community to contribute to climate action and sustainability in an innovative and impactful way. Successful grantees will be mentored by UK specialists through their projects.

How did you select the eligible countries? Why isn't my country eligible?

The British Council focused on certain countries where we have the capacity to help facilitate this project and so this has limited the number of places where it runs. We hope to be able to offer the programme or similar work in other countries in future, and we recommend you keep an eye on our [**Arts Opportunities page**](#) for other opportunities that may come up.

How many projects will be awarded?

We are looking at awarding 8-10 projects across the [South Asia listed countries](#).

Can I apply for more than 1 project?

Applicants may apply for more than 1 project. However, should you make the 1st shortlist, only 1 of your projects will be considered in the final stage.

Do I need to have any project partners from the UK or any other country?

It is not mandatory to have a partner in the UK or any other country. However, some of you may still choose to work with partners and that is fine. Successful grantees will have the opportunity to be mentored by leading UK experts in the field.

I have previously received funding from the British Council. Can I still apply?

If you have previously received a British Council funding for exactly the same activity as described in your application, you will not be able to apply for a new grant to repeat it.

However, if your application proposes the development, or addition of new elements to a project previously funded by the British Council (including new country partnerships, new project objectives and activities, or new ways of working), you can apply.

Is there matched funding expectations/requirements?

The grant requested can be for covering a part or the full project costs. Matched funding from partners and/or other external funding is welcomed but not required.

How will the grant be paid?

The grant amounts will be paid via bank transfer based on the grant agreements signed with the applicant according to local tax legislation.

All compliances under local or foreign laws need to be duly met by the applicant confirming that they are eligible to receive the grant and have the required registration and approvals in compliance with the respective country laws.

FOR ORGANISATIONS REGISTERED IN INDIA ONLY

Due to local regulations, there are further eligibility requirements for applications from organisations based in India. We will accept applications from organisations that are FCRA registered only. We request you to please submit your valid FCRA registration document along with the application for you to be eligible to apply for this grant. If you cannot share proof of a valid FCRA registration when requested, your application becomes ineligible.

If you need any clarifying of the above ahead of applying, please contact us via the enquiry form link: https://bit.ly/CF_Enquiries

How will currency fluctuation be considered?

If a non-UK organisation does not have an account in pounds Sterling (GBP), then the grant amount will be converted into local currency and fixed in the grant agreement according to the British Council monthly currency bookkeeping rates.

If I identify as a person with a disability, can I get access support to help me complete an application?

If you identify as disabled or have any access needs to complete the application, please contact us via https://bit.ly/CF_Enquiries. Depending on the level of support required, we may be able to assist you with making your application.

Can I include access support costs that are needed to deliver my project?

As an international cultural relations organisation, at the British Council we work towards mainstreaming our Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) principles and practices across all our work strands. This includes how we engage with stakeholders, participants and partners. We strive to put best practice in place in terms of access.

We ask all applicants to embed audience accessibility into their projects, explain what your project will do to address this, include any **accessibility costs** in the budget proposal, and give reasonable justification, for example accessibility facilities for disabled participants to a project event.

How do I apply?

All applications must be submitted via the [online application form](#) by **25 November 2024 23:59 GMT**.

All applications must be submitted by one project lead.

You will need to create a free Submittable account or sign in with Google or Facebook credentials in order to submit your application form. This form has collaboration enabled so you will be able to invite your colleagues/team members to collaborate on the form – the link is visible on the top right-hand corner named 'Invite Collaborators'.

[You can save a draft of your work](#) if you would like to complete the form later. You are able to keep your draft and edit it up until you submit. [After submitting your application, it is not possible to re-access it to edit it.](#) We recommend that you initially refer to the Application PDF Form on the website to preview the questions before using the online portal, and to keep a separate copy of your application in case you encounter any technical issues.

If you have a technical issue on Submittable with your application, please check out the [Submitter Resource Center](#) or contact [Submittable's Customer Support team](#) with any technical questions.

We strongly recommend you do not leave it until the final day to submit your application to avoid high volume of traffic and risk of potential technical difficulties.

We will follow-up with you about your submission by email. Please be sure to [safelist notification emails from Submittable](#) and check the email address you used to sign up for your Submittable Account regularly.

Who assesses the applications?

Applications will be assessed by a team of the British Council staff from across our global network together with a pool of external arts specialist assessors. All applications will be treated confidentially. All assessors will sign a no conflict-of-interest statement and non-disclosure agreement.

Can you review my application before I submit?

We aim to adhere to transparency and equality in providing opportunities for all applicants. We are not able to review your application before you submit to ensure fairness to all. If you have specific questions of application process or unclear about the application form questions when completing your application, you can send an enquiry to https://bit.ly/CF_Enquiries and we will respond to you.

What are the responsibilities and obligations of a successful applicant?

All project leads of successful projects will sign grant agreements stipulating their responsibilities. The main areas include but are not limited to:

- Delivering the project in accordance with the application submitted
- Timely reporting on progress of project activity in the form of interim and/or final reports that include financial and narrative sections. The completion report should be submitted within 30 days of the end of the project. For projects longer than 6 months, an interim report should be submitted by end of month 5 of project
- Submitting audience numbers on a regular basis
- Adhering to branding requirements
- Following the British Council's policies according to the grant agreement including for example, [Safeguarding global policy](#), [British Council Equality Diversity and Inclusion Policy](#)

What kind of organisations can apply?

This grant is open to artists, cultural organisations, collectives, cultural institutes, festivals, cultural hubs and arts venues based in any one of the listed South Asia countries.

Can this grant be used to support an existing project which has received funding from other British Council programmes?

This grant must support a new initiative. However, it may support new ideas, interventions, or processes inspired from existing projects, and will be reviewed based on the criteria set for this open call.

Can the British Council support with additional funding?

The British Council will not be able to support with any additional funding aside from the grant given to you. Please ensure that additional funding details (if any) are clearly mentioned in your proposal. Successful applicants are however encouraged to seek funding from other external sources.

What support can I expect from the British Council?

Besides access support outline above,

- We will run orientation session for all partners of the successful projects that will cover delivery, reporting, our policies, international collaboration etc
- The project, upon confirmation of selection for a grant, is expected to be self-directed. However, we will connect you to mentors/advisors comprising of leading UK specialists.
- During the course of the programme we will organise sharing sessions and facilitate the creation of a wider community of practice amongst the grantees

The British Council will not:

- Support you with developing a proposal or identifying service contractors for your projects
- review the application before it is submitted

What is the role of Equality, Diversity and Inclusion and Safeguarding for the application to the open call?

Statement on Diversity, Inclusivity and Sustainability

As an international cultural relations organisation, British Council works towards mainstreaming of our EDI principles and practices across all our work strands. This includes in how we engage with stakeholders, participants and partners. We will be assessing how projects address and consider Diversity, Inclusion and Environmental sustainability.

We are committed to:

- Continuing to nurture creativity, innovation and flexibility and spot new opportunities to work with others, as well as new inclusive approaches and sources of support which facilitate meaningful participation and other benefits
- Remain relevant and dynamic and achieve greater reach, impact and sustainability. This will come from engaging with a diversity of partners, perspectives, needs, abilities and opportunities
- Continuing to engage with our stakeholders, participants and partners in a constructive response to global environmental challenges through our arts, culture work. This is underpinned by our own ethical operations to reduce our environmental footprint

We ask our grantees to align with the British Council's inclusive approach, and commitment to reducing our environmental footprint and we will be assessing how project proposals (and delivery) address and realise this.

For more information, please read the following documents:

[British Council Equality Diversity and Inclusion Policy and Strategy](#)

[British Council Environmental Global Policy Statement](#)

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 safeguarding webinar to discuss our safeguarding policy and practice and what we expect from our programme delivery partners. You will need to sign these documents. For further reading, please see the [British Council Safeguarding Global Policy Statement](#).