



British Embassy
Israel



WOHL CLEAN GROWTH ALLIANCE

Call for proposals
Grants

The Wohl Clean Growth Alliance Grants

Call for Proposals

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| Opening Date | 10 July 2024 |
| Closing Date | 16th September 2024 at 22:00 GMT |
| Grant Budget | Up to \$20,000 |
| Project Duration | Up to two years. All activities funded under this call must end by 31 March 2027. |

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

Overview

The British Council and the Wohl Legacy are pleased to invite proposals to the Wohl Clean Growth Alliance (WCGA).

The Wohl Clean Growth Alliance is an initiative funded by the Wohl Legacy and managed by the British Council together with the UK Science and Innovation Network in Israel. The Alliance aims to strengthen collaboration between UK and Israeli academia, industry, and other players in the clean growth ecosystem by supporting binational collaboration in research and innovation.

The following notes provide guidance on eligibility and the conditions upon which 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 Programme

The programme aims to strengthen collaboration between UK and Israeli universities, research institutions, and their collaborators in fields of clean growth as defined below.

In the long run, we hope that these collaborations will be able to address pressing global challenges and establish the UK and Israel as leading partners in these fields.

The programme is funding a **call for small grants for UK-Israel collaboration** that meet the following criteria:

- **Promote collaborative research** at the planning stage by, for example, creating new networks, collaborating on grant submissions and funding opportunities; or
- **Facilitate research** through projects such as virtual or face-to-face meetings, symposia, new collaborations, and sharing research facilities; or
- **Apply research** via activities including policy work, technology transfer, and collaborations with industry and third-sector organizations; or
- **Communicate academic research** to students, public audiences, and other relevant groups with, for example, shared courses and teaching programs and public activities.

Collaboration between the academy and industry is encouraged. Not-for-profit organizations (including NGOs) and for-profit or commercial organizations are eligible to apply as partner applicants.

Priority Themes

For the purposes of this programme, clean growth refers to economic growth that mitigates our impact on the environment while building resilience to a changing climate. This definition includes the themes of food, water and energy, which are broadly defined and may include, but

are not limited to: clean energy generation, storage and distribution; agriculture and food distribution; or water purification, treatment and distribution.

In addition, proposals that address one or more of the following themes are particularly encouraged:

- **Ecosystem Restoration:** Protecting and restoring ecosystems that have been degraded or destroyed by conflict.
- **Climate Resilience and Adaptation:**
 - Climate-resilient agriculture: converting and reorienting agricultural systems to support food security under the new realities of climate change.
 - Climate change health adaptation: aiming to mitigate environmental health challenges while developing robust, sustainable health systems resilient to climate impacts.
- **Sustainable Agriculture and Aquaculture:** Promoting environmentally responsible and socially equitable food production, ensuring long-term stability, resilience, and nutritional diversity to enhance food security
- **Waste Management:** Waste reduction, recycling techniques, and comprehensive strategies to manage waste effectively.
- **Policy Incentives for Clean Growth:** Investigating economically viable policy instruments to incentivize the development and widespread adoption of clean growth technologies and strategies for fostering environmental sustainability.
- **Clean and Renewable Energy:** Developing renewable energy sources, including decentralised systems, to ensure reliable and sustainable electricity access for self-sustaining and off-grid communities.
- **Water Scarcity Solutions:** Studies on efficient water use technologies, desalination advancements, and innovative water recycling methods to address and mitigate water scarcity issues.

Eligibility

- Each proposal must have one Principal Applicant from the UK **and** one Principal Applicant from Israel. If the Principal Applicant from either the UK or Israel does not meet all the eligibility requirements, the proposal will not be passed onto the academic committee.
- The application will be submitted by the Primary Applicant, in collaboration with the Partner Applicant

- The British and Israeli Principal Applicants will act as co-holders of the grant. The application itself is submitted only once by the primary applicant.
- The Primary Applicant must be based at a UK or Israeli university or academic or research institution that will receive the funding.
- The Partner Applicant can be based at:
 - Academic/research institution
 - Not-for-profit organisations (including NGOs and organisations supported by government funding)
 - For-profit or commercial organisations (e.g., SMEs and startups)
- Principle investigators and associated researchers must hold a position in research institutions or academic institutions in the UK or in Israel, that are officially recognised by both countries¹
- There is no requirement for applicants to be nationals of the UK or Israel; they need to be affiliated with a UK or Israeli institution.
- Institutions can submit multiple applications; however, the applicants may submit only one application.
- Third-country collaborations are welcome, but Wohl Alliance Grants can only cover costs related to UK or Israeli partners.
- Current grantees with active projects by the call deadline are not eligible to apply. Former grantees whose projects will have ended by the deadline are eligible to apply.
- Current grantees can be part of new proposals but cannot be the primary applicants.
- New partnerships are encouraged, but existing partnerships, including those funded by this programme in the past, will be considered.
- Partnerships between academic and industry partners are encouraged.

Application process

The Application Form is available online [here](#) and can be submitted at any time before the deadline via email or website:

Please follow the instructions provided in the Application Form to ensure that the application is completed according to the requirements of the Call.

Applications must include:

- Short CV of up to 2 pages for both applicants

¹ For the UK this represents only institutions in *geographic areas under the administration of the State of Israel before 5 June 1967*

- Institutional support letter signed by the Head of Institution, Head of Department, or other person with appropriate delegated authority, expressing support for to the proposed project, willingness to administer the funding and any in kind contribution the institution may offer.

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

Evaluation and selection

Timeline

This Call is open until **16th September 2024 at 22:00 GMT**. Applicants can submit and edit the applications throughout the period of this Call remaining open.

| Activity | Date |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Call for proposals launch | 10 July 2024 |
| Deadline for submission | 16 September 2024 at 22:00 GMT |
| Responses* | 25 November 2024 |
| Projects commence* | 1 March 2025 |

**Dates are indicative,*

extenuating circumstances will be considered

Assessment

The evaluation will be conducted in two phases:

Phase 1 – eligibility checks

During this phase, applications will be assessed to determine whether.:

- The application form has been completed according to the requirements stated in this call for proposals guidelines
- All eligibility criteria have been met
- All mandatory documents have been submitted
- The requested budget amount is within the given threshold
- The duration of the proposed project is up to two years, ending before 31 March 2027.

Applications that do not meet the listed criteria will be rejected. Applicants will be notified accordingly. Appeals will not be accepted.

Phase 2 –Selection Panel

Applications will be assessed by an academic Selection Panel comprising of experts in the field with representatives from the British Council, the UK Science and Innovation Network, and the Wohl Legacy. The Panel's decision is final and confidential. No appeals will be considered. The British Council is unable to enter any communication on the Panel's decisions.

The Panel will evaluate applications using the following criteria:

- Quality and relevance of the proposal to the programme's objectives: depth, content, clarity and uniqueness of the project.
- Value of collaboration: must demonstrate the added value in the UK-Israel academic, research and/or industry relations.
- Outcomes and follow ups: an outline for potential follow up steps following the project. Applicants must demonstrate that the activities proposed in their application will lead to a feasible outcome.
- Projects should have a clear path to growth, future expansion, upscaling or financial sustainability after the funding ends.
- Effectiveness and feasibility: must demonstrate how the proposed activities are feasible within the given time and budget constraints.
- Priority will be given to proposals that establish new collaborations or significantly upgrade existing collaborations between the UK and Israel.

Funding

All proposals must be submitted in USD.

Projects can be submitted for up to \$20,000.

Grants are subject to approval of the budget submitted. The budget must outline the expenses, as well as a clear explanation for any planned co-funding expenses, where applicable.

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 applicant. 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;
- Consultancy, professional or legal fees;
- 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 Wohl Alliance, as described above.

Responsibilities of the Grantees

Grantees will provide the British Council with a mid-project report within a year from the beginning of their project and a final report of their activity within **30 days** of the end of the project. A final report template will be sent to successful applicants and will include a short online survey, and financial and a narrative segment.

The Wohl Legacy and the British Council should be acknowledged in all communication materials and pertinent publications. The logos of the Wohl Clean Growth Alliance and the British Council must be included in all communication materials.

Grantees will be expected to:

- Submit mid-project and final reports.
- 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

Applicants must obtain the support from all partner institutions.

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.

Data protection

How we use your information:

The British Council will use the information that you provide for the purposes of processing your application, making any awards, monitoring, and review of any grants.

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 Wohl Legacy;
- The Steering Committee and Advisory Board
- The selection panel

The British Council comply with the General Data Protection Regulations 2016/679 (EU GDPR). We process and handle personal information according to these regulations. The personal information that you provide on this form will only be used for the processing of your application. The information will be viewed by British Council, and those who are part of the decision-making process. Your information will not be used/shared beyond the partners listed above for any other purpose without your specific consent. British Council reserve the right to publish and share anonymized aggregated information with stakeholders.

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>.

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

The British Council is committed to equality, diversity, and inclusion, and to continuing to attract and nurture talented people from the widest pool to remain internationally competitive in research and innovation. We believe that everyone has a right to be treated with dignity and respect, and to be provided with equal opportunities to flourish and succeed. This includes avoidance of bias due to disability, gender reassignment, marriage or civil partnership status, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sexual orientation, sex (gender) and age.

We also recognise, and will seek to maximise, the benefits achieved by diversity of thought and experience within inclusive groups, organisations, and the wider community. British Council is therefore committed to ensuring that the best potential researchers from a diverse population are attracted into research careers. Applicants are asked to consider encouraging participation



from researchers from underrepresented groups in the teams implementing their proposed activities.

Safeguarding

British Council condemns all forms of harm and abuse, including bullying and harassment. We take a zero-tolerance approach to harm and abuse to any individual employed through or associated with our programmes in all contexts; whether in humanitarian or fragile and conflict-affected settings, in other field contexts, or within the international or UK research and development community which we fund. We expect organisations to promote the highest standards in organisational culture and have in place the systems and procedures required to prevent and tackle all incidents of harm and abuse. Applications should detail how they will identify and manage safeguarding risks within their projects.