

04th Call - Capacity building & internationalisation for HE - Universities for the World programme

1. The programme

The British Council in Brazil is launching the fourth edition of its Capacity Building & Internationalisation for HE - Universities for the World Programme. Resulting from joint work and consultation with several UK and BR stakeholders (DIT, UUKi, CAPES, ABRUEM, FAUBAI, CONFAP, amongst others), the objective of the programme is to strengthen the skills and capabilities for internationalisation within Brazilian universities, building on UK HEIs' expertise and experience in the field and to strengthen UK-BR partnerships through knowledge sharing. The funding aims to strengthen UKBR partnerships while assisting Brazilian HEIs in operationalising the implementation of their CAPES-PRINT approved internationalisation plans. Expected outcomes include: tools to monitor and support the implementation of internationalisation plans; knowledge and practice exchanges between British and Brazilian universities around the operationalisation and quality assurance of internationalisation plans; and stronger ties and partnerships between the institutions, continuing joint work on internationalisation.

The overall aim of the call is to support effective implementation of internationalisation plans, develop shared knowledge indicators and standards of evaluation and plans, according to their established objectives and to inform and support national policies on future monitoring and measurement of the impacts of internationalisation schemes. The joint work between UK and Brazilian HEIs shall reflect a clear alignment and interest between institutions, which could lead to stronger formal agreements and partnerships in the future. An understanding of the local context and the actions to respond to institutional arrangements and regulations in partner countries, as well as the possibility of funding streams of activity to deliver the project, will add value to the presented proposals.

The call will be realised in two stages. First, it was open for UK Universities to send their expressions of interest in partnering with Brazilian institutions for this call (22/05 – 2019 to 07/06/2019). The objective for the first stage was to provide Brazilian universities with a list of UK universities interested in this opportunity and to facilitate the process to filter joint submissions (UKBR), based on interests and missional alignment. Based on the responses, a list of UK universities was compiled. It can be consulted as one of the supporting documents for this call.

The second stage, the call launch, requires joint submission of proposals with leading PI's from Brazil and the UK. The call will be open for submissions from 17th June to 31st July 2019.

2. Specific objectives

1. To support Brazilian HE institutions in the operationalisation of internationalisation plans;
2. Strengthen the skills and capabilities for internationalisation within Brazilian universities;
3. Develop monitoring criteria for the internationalisation plans, and the baseline, that will allow for monitor, evaluation and learning MEL (Monitoring, Evaluation, Learning) of internationalisation plans;
4. Support the development of partnerships between UK and Brazilian HEIs through knowledge sharing.

3. Expected outputs

1. Development of evaluation criteria and metrics for internationalisation plan;
2. Tools to support the operationalisation and monitoring of internationalisation plans;
3. Structuring of internal mechanisms that will allow Brazilian HEIs to measure the impact of its internationalisation plan;
4. Increased capacity for Brazilian HEIs to leverage future resources and opportunities as part of their internationalisation plans.
5. Plans for evaluating and monitoring internationalisation to ensure quality in implementation, including conceptual definitions, processes and timeline to collect and systematise data.
6. Communication plans for the results, to share information and experiences with the academic community and larger Society.

4. Expected outcomes

- Strengthening capacity in Brazilian HE institutions in developing and monitoring internationalisation, by working with international office and pro-vice-chancellors for research and post-graduation;
- To strengthen bilateral strategic partnerships between Brazilian and UK HE Institutions;
- Increased opportunities for UK institutions to consolidate academic processes and partnerships in Brazil;
- Increased opportunities for Brazilian HE institutions to consolidate processes and partnerships in the UK.

5. Who can apply

- UK universities with interest in Brazil, proven track record in implementation, monitoring and /or evaluation of international plans and strategies and work with Brazilian counterparts.
- Brazilian universities that were approved in the CAPES-PRINT programme.
- Brazilian universities that were not awarded CAPES PRINT but have an internationalisation strategy in place and that would be able to match-fund under this call, applying in partnership with a Brazilian university part of CAPES PRINT.

*All submissions must have at least one Brazilian higher Education institution approved in the CAPES-PRINT programme.

6. Possible institutional arrangements

6.1) Bilateral: an agreement between one Brazilian university CAPES PRINT and one UK university. Resources administered by the leading institution.

6.2) Trilateral: an agreement between two Brazilian universities (at least one needs to be part of CAPES PRINT) with one UK university or vice versa. Resources administered by the leading institution (i.e. for the case of two Brazilian universities with one UK university, it is the UK institution who will receive and administer the grant).

6.3) Multilateral: this formula is only possible when having one or more UK institutions working with several Brazilian HE institutions (PRINT and non-PRINT), supporting the development of their internationalisation plans. UK institutions are solely responsible for administering the grant under this scheme.

7. How to apply

Proposals must be presented jointly by a UK and a Brazilian institution, following the eligibility criteria and the possible institutional arrangements. It needs to be submitted via British Council's website, from 17th June to 31st July 2019.

Applicants must specify how they will structure and develop tools to support the monitoring and guarantee of quality in the operationalisation of internationalisation plans, clearly stating methodology, timetable, activities and intended products.

Proposals should outline: the institutional mission for the participating HEIs, cooperation track record, specific areas of interest, and match-fund proposed.

Existing partnerships between UK and Brazilian higher education institutions are recognised and will be valued when evaluating alignment in joint submissions.

To apply, complete the online application at the British Council Brazil portal, as well as the budget template that should be uploaded when sending the application.

Support letters (in headed letter paper) from institutional authorities of the different higher education institutions involved are required and must be uploaded in the relevant session.

Support documents include:

1. A Word Docx version of the application form, which is available from the downloads section. This is intended to give applicants knowledge of the questions in the online application form only, and cannot be used to submit an application.
2. Budget template.
3. Qualitative report template.
4. Financial report template.
5. List of Brazilian universities approved under CAPES PRINT and their areas of partnership with UK universities.

8. Assessment

The proposals will be scored upon their ability to strengthen the different dimensions comprising our definition of sustainable internationalisation plans, such as:

- Brazilian university – at least one must be part of the CAPES PRINT programme;

- Track record of Internationalisation plans and joint work between UK and Brazilian universities;
- Strategic link of the proposal – how it connects with the demands and interests of the Brazilian university in the context of internationalisation plans under PRINT;
- Scope – how the proposal can promote activities that can generate scalability and continuity beyond the 18-month duration of the project;
- Resources – financial, staff and time invested;
- Alignment – interest between institutions and potential agreements in place;
- Context awareness – including awareness of national processes (laws and regulations) in partner countries.

Universities offering match funding will be seen as strong supporters of the initiative and will receive higher scores in the moment of evaluating grant allocations.

9. Funding

The programme will fund from 06 to 10 projects.

Requested grants to British Council can range between £8,000 and £15,000, and should include match funding from at least one CAPES- PRINT HEI and from a UK partner, and be implemented in a period of up to 18 months. The grant provided by the British Council can cover costs including:

- The exchange of researchers and staff
- Costs of organising meetings, seminars, training
- Other activities to establish and strengthen collaborative links
- Workshops
- Faculty mobility with the purpose of knowledge exchange
- Consultancy fees
- Travel and substance costs directly related to the operation of the project

Please note that no administration or operational costs will be funded.

The grant will be disbursed in a 90% - 10% formula. Initial 90% upon signature of the Grant Agreement. The remaining 10% will be provided after validation of narrative and financial reports delivered by 15th June 2020.

10. Reporting mechanisms and responsibilities

All grantees will be responsible to present interim and final narrative and financial reports for the project.

The interim report, to be delivered after 09 months of project implementation, will provide an update on progress, findings and next activities, and financial update, and should be delivered by 10th June 2020. Final report should be delivered by 15th March 2021.

Completed financial and narrative reports are a prerequisite to receive the remaining 10% of the grant. Template for financial and narrative reports enclosed.

11. Schedule

Period for Expression of interest from UK Universities	22 nd May to 07 th June 2019
Call Launch for Joint submission	17 th June 2019
Call Closure	31 st July 2019
Applications Assessment	01 – 22 nd August 2019
Results Announcement	30 th August 2019
Implementation period	16 th September 2019 to 15 th March 2021

12. Evaluation Criteria for the call

Assessment Criteria		Weights (%)
Eliminatory criteria	At least 01 Brazilian HEI part of CAPES PRINT?	n/a
Eliminatory criteria	Is there a clear match funding proposal from Brazilian HE institutions or UK partner HEIs?	n/a
Scope	How the proposal engages multiple strands of activity to deliver on the expected outcomes of the project, ensuring the scalability and continuity of the project beyond the 18-month period	20%
Resources	Clear investment and calculation of required resources in the implementation of the plan.	10%
Strategic Link	The interests from the Brazilian partner are clearly explained and linked to the implementation of internationalisation plans, providing an outline of how the proposal will address those and provide indicators to measure results	30%
Alignment	The institutions have developed joint work previously.	10%
	Some internationalisation processes between the institutions already in place.	

Context awareness	The proposal recognises potential opportunities or challenges in the internationalisation plan considering local laws and regulations in Brazil.	10%
UK track record in internationalisation strategies	Proven interest in the America's region	20%