



Strengthening Leadership with Gender, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusivity in Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) in the Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS) and Timor-Leste Project

Call for Applications

Version 1.2

Change made	Version 1.0	Version 1.1	Version 1.2
Deadline for application (page 3)	3 Dec 2021	21 Jan 2022	31 Jan 2022
Date for pre-workshop Forum with key stakeholders (page 3)	27 Jan 2022	27 Jan 2022	7 Feb 2022 8-10 am UK's time
Date for open call for SEA-UK Leadership Exchange Grant (page 3)	TBC	TBC	7- 28 Feb 2022
Date for post-workshop Forum with key stakeholders (page 3)	Aug/Sep 2022	Aug/Sep 2022	Sep 2022



The British Council and Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organisation, Regional Centre for Higher Education and Development (SEAMEO RIHED) are calling for applications from UK institutions to join our project entitled **Strengthening Leadership with Gender, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusivity in HEIs in the GMS Region and Timor-Leste**, as part of SEAMEO RIHED's initiative on Enhancing Capacities for the Collective Learning and Continuous Development of Higher Education Institutions in the SEAMEO Region, funded by the British Council's Going Global Partnership Programme. Recognising the importance of collective learning and regional collaboration in higher education, a total of 35 institutions from 11 SEAMEO member countries will be engaged in the project from 2022–2023, comprising 22 from GMS-UC, three nominated institutions from Timor-Leste, and two from each of the remaining member countries in the region.

About the Project

The project aims to create a sustainable network of leaders among Southeast Asian and UK higher education institutions to promote gender equity, diversity, and inclusivity (EDI) by providing a common space for the sharing of leadership tools as well as igniting new ideas and initiatives. This will lead to the successful management of higher education institutions and contribute to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals, particularly SDG4 (Quality Education), SDG5 (Gender Equality), and SDG17 (Partnerships).

As part of the project, the British Council and SEAMEO RIHED are planning the following three core activities: 1) pre- and post-forum with key stakeholders, 2) three-day leadership training (virtual) in February 2022, and 3) the UK-SEA Leadership Exchange Grant. The virtual workshop will bring together UK and Southeast Asian institutions to share and reflect on gender, equity, diversity, and inclusivity aspects at their respective institutions and formulate a plan or practical initiative for mainstreaming gender and EDI in HE leadership operations.

Following the workshop, participants will be eligible to apply for the **SEA-UK Leadership Exchange Grant**, with up to four grants worth £15,000 each provided to four UK institutions, for each to partner with up to eight or nine Southeast Asian institutions. The grant offers UK HEI senior leaders or managers the opportunity to be paired with counterparts in Southeast Asia and develop tailored programmes for (physical / virtual / hybrid) exchange visits. The aim of such visits is to explore and address specific gender and EDI challenges faced by each participant institutions. Participants will have the



opportunity to share leadership expertise, explore solutions for common challenges, and forge professional and institutional relationships across cultures. The SEA-UK Leadership Exchange Grant will only be available to UK institutions selected for participation in the project and its activities.

Timeline

The timeline of the UK-SEA Leadership Exchange Grant is as follows:

Activity	Key dates
Call for applications for UK institutions	12 November 2021
Application deadline	31 January 2022
Pre-workshop Forum with key stakeholders	7 February 2022 8-10 am UK's time
Leadership training (virtual)	23–25 February 2022
Open call for the SEA-UK Leadership Exchange Grant	7- 28 February 2022
Grant implementation	April 2022 to 1 February 2023
Post-workshop Forum with key stakeholders	September 2022

*Dates subject to change

Interested UK institutions should apply to join the project by **31 January 2022**. More information on the project and application form can be found in **Annex 1: Application Form for UK institutions** and **Annex 2: Project Concept Note**.

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