

Question	Focus	Response
Can the cost of a research grant exceed 25% of existing annual revenue or budget?	Commercial Application and Budget	No, the value of any individual grant may not exceed 25% of the applicant's or Lead Consortia's Partner's average income/turnover for the past 3 years. The 25% target is to re-assure the GCBC that you will be able to safely manage the budget of the grant. The revenue needs to be linked to the legal entity applying for the grant- if this is the institute within the University, then the revenue needs to be for the Institute. Similarly, the revenue needs to be associated with the lead organisation.
There is a limit of 10% variation between Concept Note and Full Proposal. Does this relate to the Total overall request, the Annual request, or also, between line items?	Commercial Application and Budget	This only refers to the overall budget
What is the overhead or administration cost limit for each research grant?	Commercial Application and Budget	Overhead or administrative costs should not exceed 15%. This does not include MEL costs.
Can a project partner or subcontractor be a part of more than one proposal submission?	Grant Management	Yes, there is no limit to the number of applications that one organisation can submit
What, if any, expenses can be covered for a private-sector partner?	Commercial Application and Budget	Private companies must not generate profit from the project. Companies must be part of a consortia and are not able to be a lead applicant.
Can you confirm the exact amount of funding we will receive?	Commercial Application and Budget	Grants must not exceed a total value of £1m and be of a minimum value of £100k. We encourage proposals for projects of any size within this range and will seek to fund a portfolio of projects of different sizes and types.
How do I find more detail about the budget e.g. indirect cost, personal cost?	Commercial Application and Budget	The overhead rate for this grant is set at 15%. For guidelines on eligible and non-eligible costs, please refer to the FCDO PRoF guidelines and the NPAC list.
Are cost-sharing/in-kind contribution required from applicants?	Commercial Application and Budget	This is welcome but must be made clear in concept note.

Can an institution submit multiple proposals or be a part of multiple teams as a collaborator?	Eligibility	Yes, if you have a clear and distinct project and it aligns with the aims of GCBC.
Are there any papers published of the results of any of the examples you provided during the presentation?	Technical Application and Research themes	Yes - go to the GCBC website and refer to the world map with GCBC projects and their relevant sites.
Would a UK multi-agency lead application be considered?	Eligibility	Yes - we are encouraging more projects from partners in South but are open to collaborations.
Is it possible to consider the Galapagos Islands as our study area?. It is part of Ecuador but it has its own government regimen and regulation	Eligibility	As the Galapagos Islands are administered as a province within Ecuador they will be considered eligible.
Is official presence in the country by the lead organization an edibility requirement?	Eligibility	The aim is to develop a partnership to ensure the required presence in country is covered. The lead does not have to have a physical presence in the benefitting country, but should have collaboration and regular visits.
We are a UK-based organisation with a presence in three Latin American countries. Can we present a proposal that covers two of these three countries?	Eligibility	Yes - as long as these countries are on the GCBC list of eligible countries.
Can public universities apply (thus universities sponsored by government)?	Eligibility	Yes
Can private companies apply for funding or participate in a consortium?	Eligibility	Private companies must not generate profit from the project. Companies must be part of a consortia and are not able to be a lead applicant.
Is match funding required to apply?	Eligibility	No
If a global north organisation leads a consortium, would they give part of their budget to organisations in ODA countries?	Commercial Application and Budget	Yes, if the lead applicant is based in the global north, we would expect a reasonable proportion of the overall budget to be spent with organisations based in the global south.

What is the due diligence requirement for consortia leads?	MCAT	We expect lead organisations to be responsible for ensuring due diligence is conducted on organisations in the consortium
Are government organisations eligible to apply?	Eligibility	Parastatal or government funded activities can be consortium partners as long they are not receiving funding from other governments, but they cannot be Lead Applicants.
Are letters of support (organizations, local governmental institutions) mandatory at the Concept Note stage?	Technical Application and Research themes	Letters of support and other supporting documents are not required or possible at the Concept Note stage.
Which currency should the submitted budget be in for the grant competition?	Commercial Application and Budget	Great British Pounds (GBP).
Are there any preliminary criteria that applicants should consider when estimating their costs in the initial stage?	Application process, timeline and formatting	When outlining the indicative budget in your concept note, please ensure that you carefully consider all relevant budget subcategories, including: staff costs, travel costs, equipment costs, sub-contractors costs, and overhead costs. At this stage, detailed information is not required; however, it is important to note that only a 10% variance is allowed between the Concept Note budget and the Full Proposal budget, if an applicant is invited to prepare a full proposal. As a result, the Concept Note budget should be carefully planned and considered from the outset.
Can research activities in non-eligible countries be included in a multi-country proposal if matched funding is available to cover those costs?	Eligibility	GCBC primarily focuses its funding on research conducted within eligible countries, as outlined in their official list. These proposals will take priority. Research in non-eligible countries can be included within a proposal as long as at least one ODA-eligible country is identified as having the primary or higher impact from the project. This ensures alignment with ODA funding objectives, which prioritise supporting eligible countries in achieving sustainable development and addressing critical climate change challenges

<p>To proceed with submitting more than one application, could you please clarify how I can submit two applications using the same user and login credentials?</p>	<p>Application process, timeline and formatting</p>	<p>Kindly note that one account/individual should only create and submit a single application. Additional applications can be submitted for different projects but the same rule applies - one separate account/individual for each separate Concept Note application.</p>
<p>I would like to confirm whether a lead institution is permitted to submit more than one proposal under this call.</p>	<p>Application process, timeline and formatting</p>	<p>There is no restriction on the number of applications that can be made by one organisation, furthermore your organisation can apply on multiple proposals as lead or as co-applicant.</p>
<p>Unfortunately, I discovered the opportunity too late. After watching your webinars, I saw that an expression of interest was required for the application process and was due on February 3rd. Is this step essential for participation?</p>	<p>Application process, timeline and formatting</p>	<p>With respect to the EOI deadline, this was just to ensure that we had an indication of how many applications to expect, and also to provide a means to ensure that those interested in the grant competition would be kept informed once the grant portal was open for applications. The fact that you missed the EOI deadline, does not mean you cannot apply. You can still apply. You will need to submit your application through the grant portal and can register for this through the GCBC website and can find more information on RGC3 window and we would like you to apply for RGC3 through portal and deadline for submission of concept note is 11:00 PM GMT 16th March.</p>
<p>I notice that in the model grant agreement, Section 4 suggests that the bank of the Grant Recipient should be located in the UK. Is this adaptable to international organisations?</p>	<p>Grant Management</p>	<p>Having a UK bank account is not essential, regarding GBP wording, the payments made in GBP will be equivalent to local currency as per prevailing exchange rates.</p>

<p>I read the instructions, and understood that with this grant we cannot support PhD students. However, it does not specify whether with this grant we can pay Masters, Undergrads or Postdocs.          Could you please clarify if we can pay/support Undergrads, Masters and or Postdocs?</p>	<p>Commercial Application and Budget</p>	<p>PhD and Post- Doc students can be part of the research team- the GCBC cannot fund a PhD, but if elements of the research will be undertaken by students (both pre and post doc) working in project team, then the associated research costs including stipends would be eligible, however not permitted for funding includes the cost of their studies(e.g., Tuition fee).</p>
<p>As I understand it, the overhead rate is 15%, as noted in the FAQ document. Could you confirm if this is calculated as 15% of the total project costs? i.e. for a grant that was requesting £100,000 in costs, we could ask for £15,000 in overheads? Could I also check if this same overhead rate applies to both Lead and partners?</p>	<p>Commercial Application and Budget</p>	<p>15% is the overall overheads are against the total budget including lead and sub-grantees i.e., whole consortium. As long you meet the 15% limit of total budget, we have no specific requirements how this is achieved across consortium.</p>
<p>What are the policies regarding allowable overheads/indirect costs?</p>	<p>Commercial Application and Budget</p>	<p>Co-funding is acceptable and indirect costs needs to proportionate in ratio of co-funding, but there needs to be a clear separation between the activities that are funded by GCBC and any co-funded activities. This is to ensure that it is clear how GCBC funds are being utilised and that they are not being used to support activities that are out with the agreed project proposal, furthermore if you have any further queries, please let us know.</p>

<p>The value of any individual grant may not exceed 25% of the applicant's or Lead Consortia's Partner's average income/turnover for the past 3 years. Could you please confirm to me whether this limit refers to the turnover of the lead organisation only or also to the turnover of the other partners in a consortium?</p>	<p>Commercial Application and Budget</p>	<p>For this GCBC grant call, the project value cap is fixed at 25% of only the lead organisation's average turnover for the past 3 years(not whole consortium), furthermore, the total value cap of 25% of turnover cap irrelevant of proposed project length, based on this if your organisation's average turnover in last three years is 400,000 then you can apply up to 100,000.</p>
<p>Is the character count in the application form inclusive or exclusive of spaces?</p>	<p>Application process, timeline and formatting</p>	<p>The character count includes spaces.</p>
<p>In the budget breakdown, where should we input the amount assigned for the period from April to November 2028, in the case of a 3 year project?</p>	<p>Commercial Application and Budget</p>	<p>Please include any allocated budget that falls within 28/29 in the amount for FY 27/28. This will only be the period April to November 2028t, as any 3 year project starting November 2025 will end by November 2028.</p>