Call for interest:

TNE partnerships in the Philippines

I. Background

The British Council, in partnership with the Philippine Commission on Higher Education (CHED), launched a new flagship programme in 2021 called the **Access and Competitiveness through Internationalisation of Higher Education (ACT-IHE)**.

Under ACT-IHE, which is comprised of multiple project strands, is the **development of new UK-Philippine transnational education (TNE) degrees**. The programme seeks to widen access to quality education and build competitiveness of Philippine universities by building competencies of institutions and staff on transnational education (TNE) through knowledge sharing and programme development with the UK.

Drawing on the UK-Philippines partnerships and network, the project supports the ambition of the Philippines to help and enable universities, students and communities to benefit from the innovation in teaching, learning and research that international partnerships bring. By creating new TNE programmes in niche areas, Filipinos will have wider access to internationally recognised qualifications.

With catalyst grant from CHED and the British Council, **new TNE degrees** are expected to be developed between Philippine and UK universities.

ACT-IHE builds on the success of the Joint Development of Niche Programmes through Philippines-UK Linkages project in 2016-2018 that yielded 17 postgraduate TNE programmes in various niche and priority disciplines.

The programme forms part of the British Council’s Going Global Partnerships programme. Going Global Partnerships connects universities, colleges, education policy makers, civil society organisations and industry partners in the UK and around the world.

This British Council programme offers vital international opportunities - the chance to build relationships, to share ideas and good practice, to access grant funding for collaborative partnerships and more.

Through this work, the programme contributes to stronger, more inclusive and globally connected tertiary education systems which support economic and social growth.

II. About the call and objectives

The British Council is looking for UK universities interested to pursue TNE partnerships in the Philippines.

A series of activities conducted in 2022-2023 served as preliminary undertakings towards the establishment of formal TNE partnerships between universities. This includes knowledge sharing sessions about TNE, its different models and case studies in the UK to name a few. Moreover, through a mission visit in the UK, the Philippine universities were introduced to the UK higher education sector, and joined dialogues with UUKi, UK-ASEAN Business Council, QAA, Department for Education, Department for International Trade, UK ENIC, Office for Students, Advance HE, among others.

We aim to showcase the diversity of TNE models in the UK and possible subject specialisms to introduce in the Philippines. While general subject areas for the TNE have been identified, the goal of the programme is to introduce niche, specialist programmes that are unavailable or not widely available in the country.

**Note that the inclusion of UK universities in this call is not** **an expression of partnership commitment**. Universities that convey their interest will be included in the preliminary activities including knowledge sharing sessions and initial partnership discussions. A separate process will be undertaken in the selection of TNE partners.

III. Target audience

We are looking for UK universities interested to co-develop UK-Philippine postgraduate degrees with the following universities:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Institution | Subject area for TNE |
| [Batangas State University](https://batstate-u.edu.ph/) | Engineering and health sciences |
| [Central Mindanao University](https://www.cmu.edu.ph/) | Biology, Biotechnology |
| [Mariano Marcos State University](https://www.mmsu.edu.ph/) | Information technology |

Universities located in Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland are highly encouraged to express interest for TNE partnership.

IV. Instructions for submissions

Interested universities are invited to submit the following documents to Danie Gonzalvo, Education Manager, at DanieSon.Gonzalvo@britishcouncil.org.ph by **Wednesday, 20 October 2023 at 23.59 (UK)**:

* Profile of university
* Subject specialisms and subject areas of interest for TNE
* TNE partnerships and experience
* Additional information about partnerships or partners you are looking for

Use the subject line: **Expression of interest - TNE development in the Philippines**

All queries must be sent to Danie Gonzalvo at DanieSon.Gonzalvo@britishcouncil.org.ph.

V. Project roadmap

Note: Shapes in pink are activities involving UK institutions.