

[British Embassy Chisinau announces call for bids: Good Governance Fund Moldova](#)

Call for bids

The British Embassy Chisinau is running a competitive bidding process to contract a partner that will deliver a project supporting the administration of the President of Moldova (PA).

Interested partners are invited to present project proposal that will provide targeted Technical Assistance (TA) to the PA, aimed at strengthening the capacity of the PA to promote and to lay the basis for judicial reform and accountable government and service delivery, within the mandate of the Presidency.

Brief project summary / main objectives

In Moldova, corruption remains pervasive across government institutions and services but is especially prevalent in customs, police, courts, prosecutor's offices, SOEs, business regulators, education and healthcare.

Low public confidence in the justice sector, fuelled by corruption and unscrupulous officials, as numerous assessments attest, are key factors preventing sustainable investments in Moldova's economy, both local and international; reduce the efficiency of the public sector, and creates a general atmosphere of distrust in the Moldovan government.

The project will pursue the following objectives:

- support anticorruption reforms in Moldova, improve the ability of public institutions to effectively fight systemic, high-level corruption
- contribute to increasing the effectiveness of the judiciary
- establish a strategic communications framework to raise public awareness and encourage broad support of the two objectives above leading to greater demand for reforms in these areas

The President has defined anticorruption and judiciary reforms as key priorities of her 4-year term in office. It is therefore fundamental that TA be provided during this initial period, while support for the President and reform is strong.

Although Moldova's Constitution divides the powers to fight corruption and implement justice sector reforms between the branches of power, the Presidential administration has the strongest commitment and political will to drive justice sector and anticorruption reforms in a systematic and coherent manner as well as to raise public awareness of the importance of

these reforms.

Who may bid: eligibility criteria

This project is only eligible for implementation by non-profit and/or multilateral international organisations* and must demonstrate:

- previous experience in delivering and managing projects
- preferably previous experience working with international agencies/organisations

*Due to the nature of this project it is our expectation that international expertise will be required throughout the implementation period. Therefore we would strongly advise any local Moldovan implementers to partner with an international or multilateral organisation (i.e. joint implementation).

Selection criteria

- project should demonstrate strong gender equality and social inclusion considerations throughout all the outputs and deliverables. In particular these considerations must be mainstreamed into experts' assessment of corruption (e.g. how social exclusion and gender inequality drive corruption and vice versa)
- project should have clearly defined, SMART (specific, measurable, achievable, realistic, time-limited) outputs and deliverables and demonstrate value for money
- outcomes are achievable within the funding period
- project design includes clear monitoring and evaluation procedures
- funding allocations for 2021/22 must be spent by 31 March 2022
- successful applicants will be required to submit quarterly and final financial and narrative reporting
- as a general rule, grants should not be used to procure goods and equipment but this will be considered on a case-by-case basis; no more than 10% of project funds may be used for equipment. The Fund may not be used for gifting

How to bid

To submit your application:

- Please complete the following documents in English and send them in single email to projects.chisinau@fcdo.gov.uk , indicating 'Project Concept – name of your organisation' in the subject line.

[Project Proposal Bid Form](#) (MS Word Document, 71KB)

[Activity Based Budget \(ABB\) Template](#) (MS Excel Spreadsheet, 26.2KB)

Please include administrative data of Implementing Organisation: title, address, website of organisation, and name and contact details of the main contact person.

Budget

We welcome projects in the value range from £100,000 to £200,000**

**To be agreed based on the Activity Based Budget of the successful implementer

Timeframe

Project activities are expected to start ASAP and can run up to 31 March 2022

If you have questions about your submission, these can be answered either by email projects.chisinau@fcdo.gov.uk or at the information session detailed below.

The deadline for project concept bids is midnight (Moldova time), Wednesday 2 June 2021. Late submissions will NOT be accepted.

Notification and next steps

Please note that bidding is competitive and only selected project will receive funding. Due to the volume of bids expected we will not be able to provide feedback on unsuccessful bids.

If you are interested in bidding, please anticipate attending an on-line information session organised by the British Embassy Chisinau on Monday 24 May 2021. Please email in advance projects.chisinau@fcdo.gov.uk to register your interest in attending the information session.

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[Ofsted publishes research review on religious education](#)

News story

Ofsted has published the second in a series of reviews into different subjects across the curriculum. This review looks at religious education (RE).



The latest review draws on our education inspection framework (EIF) and other religious education (RE) literature to identify what contributes to high-quality RE curriculum, assessment, pedagogy and systems in schools where we inspect RE.

The review recognises that there is no single way of constructing and teaching a high-quality RE curriculum. However, it does identify some common features:

- The curriculum should cover substantive content and concepts collectively (or 'collectively enough'), rather than covering excessive

amounts of content superficially. Content is sufficient for pupils to grasp a bigger picture about the place of religion and non-religion in the world.

- What is taught and learned in RE is grounded in what is known about religion or non-religion from academic study. This helps prevent pupils from developing misconceptions about religion and non-religion.
- Pupils study certain areas of the RE curriculum in depth and acquire a range of detailed knowledge of different concepts and ideas, which they remember long term. Drawing on this prior knowledge enables them to consider more complex ideas about religion. Leaders and teachers select this 'depth of study' from contrasting religious and/or non-religious traditions so that pupils avoid developing misrepresentations.
- The curriculum is well sequenced to ensure that pupils learn the knowledge they need for later topics.
- There is a consideration of when pupils should relate the content to their own personal knowledge (for example, their own prior assumptions).
- How the curriculum is taught and assessed focuses pupils' attention squarely on the knowledge they need to learn.
- Adequate curriculum time is given to RE, so that leaders can deliver an ambitious curriculum.
- There is sufficient training and professional development so that teachers have appropriate subject professional knowledge.

The review refers to 3 different types of subject-specific knowledge that pupils learn in RE. Each of these is powerful and should not be confused with 'mere facts'. The first is 'substantive' knowledge about various religious and non-religious traditions. The second type is 'ways of knowing', where pupils learn 'how to know' about religion and non-religion. The third type is 'personal knowledge', where pupils build an awareness of their own presuppositions and values about what they study. The review suggests that improvement in RE at both primary and secondary level includes knowing more of these 'pillars of progression'. This prepares pupils to engage in a complex, multi-religious and multi-secular world.

In the spring term of 2022, we will be publishing a report on the quality of RE curriculums taught in schools. We will gather the evidence for this through subject 'deep dives' during inspections under the EIF.

To find out more about Ofsted's curriculum work, read the [principles behind the research reviews and subject reports](#).

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[BEIS in the Queen's Speech](#)

- Queen's Speech reinforces UK's ambition of becoming a global science

superpower

- new laws to help seize opportunities for British business and professionals now the UK has left the EU
- measures to help further secure energy supplies while tackling climate change

Business Secretary Kwasi Kwarteng has today (12 May) welcomed this week's Queen's Speech, which reinforced the UK's commitments to becoming a global science superpower, taking advantage of the UK's departure from the European Union, and strengthening our energy security as we transition to a net zero future.

The speech set out the government's legislative agenda for this parliamentary session and affirmed the government's commitment to deliver on the people's priorities as the UK builds back better from the pandemic. It follows the government acting on an unprecedented scale to protect jobs, livelihoods, businesses and public services throughout the pandemic, which the government is building on through its flagship Plan for Jobs that will increase job opportunities in all parts of the UK backed by £30 billion of investment.

Business Secretary Kwasi Kwarteng said:

After such a difficult year, our immediate priority is to continue standing by workers and businesses as we have done throughout the pandemic, backed by an unprecedented £352 billion package of support.

But as we reopen our economy and look ahead to the future with a renewed optimism, the Queen's Speech shows this government has an ambitious legislative agenda to deliver on the people's priorities – seizing the opportunities as an independent trading nation, cementing our status as a science superpower, and ensuring we build back better from the pandemic.

Strengthening our position as a global science superpower

The Advanced Research and Invention Agency (ARIA) Bill is going through Parliament following its introduction in March. Backed by £800 million of funding, ARIA will support cutting-edge research, turning ideas into new technologies that transform people's lives, and cement the UK's position as a global science superpower.

Investment in research and development will be critical to the economic and social recovery from the impacts of COVID-19, enabling us to build back better for a greener, healthier and more resilient UK.

The government is investing £14.9 billion in research and development in 2021/22. This means government R&D spending is now at its highest level in 4 decades.

Seizing opportunities as an independent trading nation

The Professional Qualifications Bill will mean skilled professionals from around the world can seek recognition to practise in the UK in areas where their skills are in need.

Supporting the UK's key regulated professions to deliver the vital services on which we rely is a priority for the government. Regulators are the experts in their field and must have the autonomy to set the standard required to practise in the UK, ensuring quality and safety.

Previously, when part of the European Union, regulators of professions were required to have routes to recognising professionals from other EU countries. Now the UK Government, devolved administrations and regulators are being equipped with the tools to put in place recognition routes that meet the demands of individual professions in different parts of the UK.

As the UK is no longer bound by the EU's bureaucratic and prescriptive state aid rules, the government's Subsidy Control Bill will create a new, tailored UK-wide subsidy control framework for providing more tailored financial support to businesses – including innovative, R&D focused industries to encourage job creation and growth across all parts of the UK.

The new framework will reflect the UK's strategic interests, strengthen the Union, and help to drive economic growth and level up opportunity and prosperity across the whole of the UK as we build back better from the pandemic.

The Business Secretary has reaffirmed that the UK will not return to the failed 1970s approach of the government trying to run the economy, 'picking winners' or bailing out unsustainable companies.

Strengthening our energy security as we transition to net zero

The UK is a world-leader in tackling climate change. Renewable electricity generation has more than quadrupled since 2010, coal's share of generation has fallen from 40% in 2012 to under 3% in 2019, and the UK has the world's largest offshore wind capacity.

In 2019, the UK went even further by becoming the first major economy in the world to make a legally binding commitment to end its contribution to global warming by 2050 by reaching net zero emissions.

This parliamentary session will see a Downstream Oil Resilience Bill published in draft form to support a secure transition away from fossil fuels to renewables as we go further to tackle climate change. It will provide the government with a strengthened ability to protect fuel supply resilience and prevent supply disruptions from occurring.

This follows the publication last year of the Energy White Paper, setting out the transformation of the UK's energy system. This will create new industries, unleash private capital in green innovation and support up to

220,000 jobs by 2030.

The UK will host the vital COP26 climate negotiations in November this year and the UK government intends to use this role to catalyse ambitious global action to cut emissions further, help communities adapt and increase resilience, and harness growing momentum to take us closer to delivering the goals of the Paris Agreement.