

British Embassy Warsaw launches ‘Don’t Become a Victim of Modern Slavery’ campaign

World news story

British Embassy Warsaw is taking part in a campaign aimed at informing about the risks of becoming a victim of modern slavery.



UK Government

British Embassy Warsaw, together with local partners in Poland (Ministry of Interior and Administration, Police, Border Guard and other NGOs), as well as with the support of some of the biggest local job advertising sites, has prepared a campaign aimed at informing about the risks of becoming the victim of modern slavery. The campaign is focused on the issue of forced labour.

With the increasing uncertainty of the labour market, caused by the current pandemic, and with potentially more people seeking quick employment, there is a risk that this situation will be taken advantage of by criminal groups recruiting people for forced labour. This risk is particularly relevant in the situation of those seeking employment abroad. Our campaign informs how to safely look for employment, how to avoid being taken advantage of, and who to contact if you need help.

Published 17 August 2020

[NDA calls for people to 'have their say' on its Strategy](#)

News story

The Nuclear Decommissioning Authority has today published its fourth Draft Strategy and begun a 12-week public consultation.



The NDA regularly reviews its Strategy to ensure it has the right approach to decommissioning its 17 nuclear sites and benefits from the latest learning, best practice and can continue to deliver value for the taxpayer.

The [12-week public consultation](#) started on 17 August, during which we welcome any comments, questions or feedback, and encourage all of our stakeholders to 'have their say'.

Because of the current Government guidance around social distancing during the COVID-19 pandemic, we will be holding a series of virtual meetings and briefings, and a bespoke virtual stakeholder event mid-way through the consultation period – where stakeholders will have the opportunity to discuss the details with authors of the draft strategy.

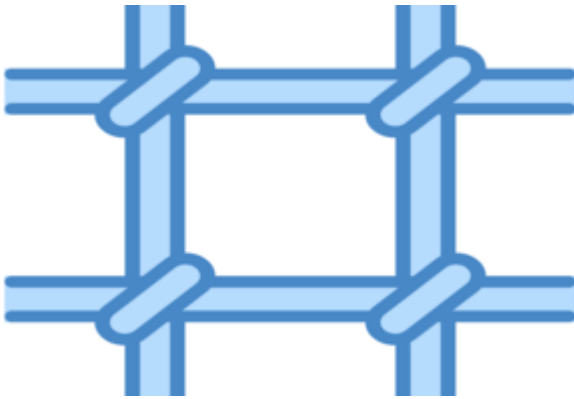
These responses will be considered in developing the final Strategy – which will be submitted for approval to UK and Scottish Government, ahead of publication by April 2021.

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Call for evidence: Second Annual Inspection of 'Adults at Risk' in immigration detention

News story

The Independent Chief Inspector is inviting anyone with knowledge and experience of the Home Office's treatment of vulnerable individuals in immigration detention to write to him with their evidence.



In 2018, following two reviews by Stephen Shaw, the Home Secretary commissioned ICIBI to carry out an annual inspection of how the 'Adults at Risk in immigration detention' policy was working. My [first annual report](#) was published in April 2020, and I am now beginning my second inspection, which will cover the period 1 April 2019 to 30 September 2020, in order to take account of changes made in response to COVID-19.

This call is open to everyone and I am keen to receive evidence from the widest possible range of contributors, but especially from organisations and professionals that work with detainees and from individuals who have been detained. But, please note that my remit does not extend to investigating or making decisions about individual cases. This remains a Home Office responsibility.

Evidence in relation to the following areas would be particularly welcome:

- Changes (positive and negative) Home Office policy and practice since the first 'Adults at Risk' inspection, including in response to the [recommendations](#) in the first report
- The structure and application of safeguards in detention, such as the Detention Gatekeeper and the Rule 35 process
- The identification, management and safeguarding of vulnerable foreign nationals held in prisons under immigration powers
- Potential "quick wins"

- Areas requiring more detailed examination and analysis.

Please feel free to raise any other points you consider relevant.

The deadline for contributions is 14th September. If you will have difficulty responding by this date but would like to contribute, please contact the inspection team via the link below.

How to respond

Please click [here](#) to email your submission to the Chief Inspector by 14th September 2020.

Please note:

In accordance with the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) we need your permission to process and retain the information you submit in your submission, by clicking [here](#) a consent statement will automatically be added to your email.

However if you are using a non-compatible email client then please send your submission to AARforum@icibi.gov.uk with 'Adults at risk evidence submission' in the subject line and include the following consent statement in the body of your email, 'I consent to the Independent Chief Inspector of Borders and Immigration retaining and processing the information and data in this email.'

Please do not include this statement if you do not wish to give your consent. The information you submit may be quoted in the final inspection report, but it is the ICIBI's practice not to name sources and to anonymise as much as possible any examples or case studies.

Published 17 August 2020

[Prague Programme Fund: call for bids 2020/21](#)

World news story

The call for bids for the Prague Programme Fund is now open.



Overview

The Prague Programme Fund is a small and short-term funding mechanism, which allows British Embassy Prague to support local organisations seeking to deliver real and measureable outcomes targeting four primary objectives.

Project bids

Typical projects should range in value up to CZK 290,000 (with a minimum bid size of CZK 50,000) and should aim to work with organisations from government, civil society and the private sector. All activities must be completed by 31 March 2021.

Priorities

We are looking for project bids in four areas:

Climate change

Intended outcomes:

- to raise climate change awareness in the Czech Republic
- to pursue climate change mitigation and adaptation – supporting Czech Republic to meet its UN commitments on climate change

Economic impact of COVID-19

Intended outcomes:

- to help Czech business associations, industry bodies and civil society organisations better respond to the needs of local businesses, particularly SMEs, in surviving the effects of COVID-19 and recovering after the crisis. Activities promoting a green recovery will be prioritised.

International security/hybrid threats

Intended outcomes:

- to build knowledge and understanding of emerging hybrid threats and strengthen the resilience against them in the Czech Republic,

- particularly in regions which are targets for hybrid threat activity
- to share knowledge and expertise in the area of hybrid threats, including countering disinformation, promoting media literacy and cyber security
 - to enhance knowledge and understanding of emerging foreign and security policy issues among Czech communities by through activities to support quality independent journalism on these issues

Promoting equality

Intended outcomes:

- to enhance awareness of discrimination on the grounds of gender, sexual orientation or race, building on the UK's experience
- to support activities which aim to bolster equality

Projects which cover more than one priority are also welcome.

How to bid: submitting project proposals

The Project Proposal Form (including an Activity Based Budget) should be submitted in English to ukinczechrepublic@fco.gov.uk by 8 September 2020.

Please name both the file and e-mail subject as "Prague Programme Fund 2020: XXX name of the implementer."

Binding agreements

The British Embassy Prague will sign a standard Grant Agreement/MoU/Commercial Contract with all successful bidders. The terms are non-negotiable.

Project proposals

Please read all guidance. Ensure that project proposals are designed and submitted in accordance with guidelines. Proposals that do not meet the guidance and the following criteria will be rejected immediately.

Assessment criteria

- value for money
- evidence of local demand/need
- project viability, including capacity of implementing organisation(s)
- project design, including clear, achievable objectives/outputs
- sustainability
- good risk and stakeholder management including plans to cope with the effects of COVID-19.

Guidance

Forms

Timeline 2020

Dates	Activity
17 August 2020	British Embassy accepting submissions of Project Proposals
13 September 2020	Implementers to submit Project Proposals (including Activity Based Budget)
27 September 2020	Embassy announces bidding results to implementers
7 October 2020	Binding agreements with financial arrangements are set
8 October 2020	Project implementation commences
31 March 2021	Implementers to complete all project activities

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Scotch Whisky gears up to go green thanks to UK Government funding

Lovers of Scotch whisky and other Scottish distilled spirits will soon be able to enjoy their favourite tipple in the knowledge that they are helping to cut carbon emissions and support new green jobs, thanks to a new UK Government scheme which opened today (17 August).

Kwasi Kwarteng, Minister for Energy and Clean Growth, today announced the opening of the £10 million fund, which is being made available to kick-start green innovation across Scotland's iconic distillery industry. The move gives backing to distilleries across the UK to harness energy sources such as low-carbon hydrogen, biomass and repurposed waste to power their operations.

Currently, there are 133 malt and grain distilleries operating in Scotland making up nearly half of all distilleries in the UK. The government funding will help them produce their world-famous wares while contributing to taking pollution equivalent to emissions from 100,000 cars out of the atmosphere.

Energy and Clean Growth Minister, Kwasi Kwarteng, said:

Scottish distilleries will not only be producing iconic drinks enjoyed the world over, but will now also be blazing a trail by developing cutting edge low carbon technologies in the process.

We want to harness the tremendous innovation of our distilleries so customers can enjoy their favourite tipple in the knowledge they are helping to tackle climate change.

Greening distillery operations in Scotland and across the rest of the UK will help contribute towards its legally-binding target of reaching net-zero emissions by 2050. The funding comes as the UK government continues to ramp up its green economic recovery from Coronavirus ahead of hosting the UN Climate Change talks (COP26) in November next year.

As well as decarbonising the Scotch industry, the funding will also be open to distillers producing Scotland's world class gins. There are over 110 Scottish gins being produced by more than 60 distilleries, and three of the world's bestselling gins Hendrick's, Gordon's and Tanqueray are all made in Scotland.

Visiting Benromach Distillery in Speyside, UK Government Minister for Scotland, Iain Stewart, said:

Scotland is world famous for its whisky and gin distilleries, they are one of our greatest success stories and as I have seen for myself at Benromach Distillery are at the heart of our local communities employing over 11,000 people many in our rural areas.

This new funding from the UK Government will help the industry to continue the great work so far reducing emissions, adopting new green technologies and create more jobs, all vital on the path to recovery from Coronavirus.

The announcement of today's funding has also been welcomed by trade bodies and industry experts. Dagmar Droogsma, Director of Industry at the Scotch Whisky Association, said:

The Scotch Whisky industry welcomed the new Green Distilling Fund announced in the March Budget as an important step on our sustainability journey. The use of innovative technology is among several approaches that the industry could adopt as it works towards net zero by 2045, as outlined in our recent net zero report.

This Fund will provide us with the opportunity to put forward bids for demonstration projects for so-far untested technologies, helping the Scotch Whisky industry play its part in reaching Scotland's emissions targets.