

The Programme Office in Uruguay is inviting submissions of project proposals to the Bilateral Fund 2016.

The UK Government's Bilateral Fund seeks to create real, measurable outcomes.

The Bilateral Fund is ODA ([Official Development Assistance](#)), hence, the primary beneficiary of the project proposal submitted to the Bilateral Fund must be Uruguay. (Included in the [OECD DAC list](#)), in line with [DAC criteria](#).

The deadline for submission is 17 May 2016: 0900 hrs. local time Uruguay.
All funded projects must be completed by December 2016.

Priorities:

The main priorities for the current call for bids are:

Smart cities

- Support for the development of long term sustainable planning tools with durable outcomes;
- Support the government's efforts to ensure cities promote climate change objectives aligned to COP 21 UNFCCC agreements;
- Support for the development of mechanisms to digitalise services and to improve government's interaction with society in general;
- Support for the design of Smart City strategies and innovative Smart City solutions;
- Promotion of benefits of sustainable infrastructure and transport;
- Support for the creation or improvement of policy, regulatory and legislative frameworks (e.g. green transport zones, governance of ports, sustainable construction, etc.).

Infrastructure

- Technical assistance for the development of Public Private Partnerships (PPP) projects with focus on public services: hospitals, schools and waste management;
- Private sector engagement on PPP: Capacity to the private sector (Small and Medium Sized Enterprise) on special purpose vehicle, relationship management, contracting agreements, concession contracts, benefits, engagement with public policy, etc.

Good Governance, Competitiveness and Productivity

- Driving competitiveness;
- Tackling corruption;
- Promote transparency to combat protectionism, including through the Open Government Partnerships and OECD requirements;

- Improved effectiveness and transparency of economic policy making, including in extractive industries.

Help develop business by improving the overseas business environment

- Market Analysis/development of Inward Investment for UY: Promotion of Uruguay as a regional hub for international/regional trade (with an emphasis of opportunities to the UK market). Priority areas: Agri-tech, logistics, luxury goods, PPP Opportunities;
- Implementing policies to improve the business environment in Uruguay;
- Implementing economic policies to promote an open and competitive business environment, including trade facilitation.

Promoting economic growth through science and innovation

- Support to develop Uruguay's Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) education programmes: support to develop new curricula, teaching methods, etc.;
- Support to develop and foster business opportunities and economic growth through science and innovation: joint collaboration between UK and Uruguay on areas such as agri-science, precision agriculture and biotechnology;
- Development of long term policies to promote innovation and competitiveness in key economic sectors (i.e. agriculture, tourism, biotechnology, creative industry, ICT (information and communications technology));
- To strengthen capacity in science outreach programmes aimed at primary and secondary students.

Bids will be assessed against the following criteria:

- Value for money;
- Alignment with [FCO's Strategic Objectives](#) (FCO);
- Alignment with British Embassy Priorities defined above;
- Meet [OECD criteria](#) for Official Development Assistance (ODA) funding;
- Evidence of support from the Uruguayan government, evidence that relevant Ministries and/or other government agencies have been consulted and are supportive of the project proposal and its outcomes;
- Project viability, including capacity of implementing organisation(s);
- Project design, including clear, achievable impact;
- Risk and stakeholder management;
- Sustainability / once the project has been completed – What factors will impact on sustainability? What actions are needed by the project to ensure sustainability occurs? What future programming will be designed to develop this impact stream/support further economic development?
- Level of co-funding

Bids should highlight:

Rationale for why the UK is the partner of choice for the project. This might be due to profiling UK commercial or policy expertise, replicating/adapting a British policy, experience of British implementer or link to UK policy priorities.

- Communication Strategy – including stakeholders, beneficiary organizations and relevant public communications strategy actions.
- We are looking for practical interventions that will lead to a real and timely difference to decision-making.
- Proposals can deliver one or more activities such as research, analysis, seminars, events, missions or workshops, as well as a small scale projects (up to £15,000). Both should lead to specific and measurable action.
- Proposals should outline impact. We want to know what changes the project will bring about.

Who is eligible to bid:

- Government, government agencies, public institutions, etc.
- Academia, think tanks, research institutes, etc.
- Non-governmental organisations (NGOs);
- Chambers of Commerce, associations, etc.
- Any other organisations that have proven organisational skills and trustworthiness;

* Private businesses or individuals are only eligible as implementers of project activities, not as bidder.

How to bid:

Bids should be submitted in English by email with the title Bilateral Fund 2016: Project title-Name of the implementer-Uruguay”, to the British Embassy in Uruguay: UKinUruguay@adinet.com.uy

Bids will be assessed and shortlisted by the Embassy and then submitted to the Americas Directorate of the Foreign & Commonwealth Office for final approval.

The process will consist of a one stage full bid proposal.

The deadline for submission is 9am local time on 17 May 2016

The deadline for project completion is 31 December 2016.

Typical projects range in value from £5000 to £15000 funded by FCO.

Projects with strong co-funding will be particularly welcomed.

Project proposals must be submitted completing the following documents:

- Project Bid Form: [Proposal Form - £10k to £80k](#)
- [Activity Based Budget Model](#) (Activity-based budget must contain detailed description of each activity and should comply with FCO Value for Money and Procurement Procedures)

The fund cannot support projects/items such as:

- Recurrent monthly costs (salaries, rent, utility bills or consumables);
- Donations/loans;
- Projects that are purely of a political, military or religious nature;
- Computers, sports equipment, or textbooks;
- Scholarships/sponsorships;
- Administrative costs should be no more than 10% of the overall budget

Approval, contract, reporting and currency:

The FCO will sign a [Grant Contract](#) with all successful bidders.

The Embassy will require monthly financial reports and [quarterly project progress reports](#) from implementers. The first payment will be made upon the receipt of monthly financial report. A [Project Completion Report](#) giving details of how the project was implemented, lessons learned, recommendations and all financial expenditure is expected on completion and before the final payment.

The budget must be presented in pounds (GBP): project implementers, whether in Uruguay or the UK, will be paid in local currency.

Questions regarding the call for bids will be received only in writing to:

UKinUruguay@adinet.com.uy