

## **Youth Climate Ambassadors project evaluation**

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# **Terms of Reference**

# **V1.0**

October 2025

## GUIDELINES FOR APPLICANTS

### Important Dates

SR No.	Activities	Date/Month
1	Date of advertisement for call for applications	03 October 2025
2	Last date for submission of applications	26 October 2025; 23:59 SL Time
3	Tentative date of result announcement	31 October 2025
4	Contract signing	Early November 2025
5	Start of assignment	November 2025
6	End of assignment	Submission of final report 31 March 2026

**Please fill in the application form and submit it to:**  
**[chameera.wickramasinghe@britishcouncil.org](mailto:chameera.wickramasinghe@britishcouncil.org) no later than 26 October 2025, 23:59 (SL Time).**

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## Background

Climate change in Sri Lanka is an important issue, and its effects threaten to impact both human and natural systems. Sri Lanka has a youth population of roughly 2.6 million between the ages of 18 and 25 years. If the age bracket is extended to 15 and 29 years, approximately a quarter of the total population classifies as youth.

In 2021, British Council conducted a research study – “Young people on Climate Change: A perception survey”. According to the Sri Lanka country report, following are some of the main findings.

- Sri Lanka’s youth are generally aware of climate change, but the majority have neither technical understanding nor in-depth knowledge of the topic.
- The following were identified as the key gaps through the survey:
  - lack of leadership skills, lack of comprehensive climate education as well as lack of openness from state and non-state community stakeholders to take ideas from youth.
  - Sri Lankan youth believe in collective action for climate change and view it as a public responsibility. However, there is a lack of opportunities and platforms for youth to take initiatives and make decisions.

There is a significant interest among Sri Lankan youth to learn more about climate change, and the majority believe to some degree that their opinions and actions on climate change will matter in the future. This signifies the potential for government and non-government actors to reach out to young people and enhance climate-related education and training as well as provide opportunities for their climate action.

## Introduction to the project

Through ‘University Youth Climate Ambassadors (YCA)’ project, British Council in Sri Lanka intends to offer Sri Lankan youth in higher education the opportunity to develop their **knowledge, skills, and networks** to offer **impactful and sustainable solutions** to the challenges posed by climate change.

## Opportunity

The British Council is seeking to contract an **M&E consultant** to support the YCA project, implemented from August 2025 – March 2026. This involves reviewing the project log frame, collecting, analysing, and interpreting monitoring and evaluation data and will involve devising a method of evaluating short-medium term impact of the project. Contracting period will be **28 days** from **November 2025 to Mid-April 2026**.

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## Project Aim, Objective and target Groups

### Overall aim

Empower youth in higher education to shape a climate resilient future through skill building, networks and mindset development.

### Specific objectives

- Develop leadership and climate action skills among youth in higher education.
- Advance the understanding and integration of Gender Equality, Social Inclusion, and Social Cohesion (GESI + SC) in climate initiatives.
- Create opportunities for meaningful youth participation in climate decision-making.

### Target group

Young people (18 – 28 years) in 6 universities<sup>1</sup> in Sri Lanka.

## Approach and methodology

The programme adopts a youth-centred, non-formal education approach rooted in experiential learning, co-creation, and inclusive participation. It is designed to engage youth in universities in a structured learning journey that fosters climate leadership, social inclusion, and systems thinking.

Key Principles Guiding the Approach:

- Participatory and experiential learning: Sessions prioritise active engagement through problem-solving, reflective dialogue, role play, and collaborative activities.
- Youth led facilitation and peer learning: Building on the success of previous projects, facilitators and alumni will be extensively engaged to co-deliver sessions, share experiences, and mentor new participants.
- Integration of GESI and SC: All content and activities will be intentionally designed to reflect and promote principles of Gender Equality, Social Inclusion, and Social Cohesion.
- Localised relevance with global perspective: The programme will link local climate realities with national/institutional strategies and global frameworks (e.g., SDGs, NDCs), promoting a sense of global citizenship.
- Systems thinking and interdisciplinary approach: Participants will be guided to explore the interconnectedness of social, environmental, and economic systems and to identify leverage points for transformative action.

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<sup>1</sup> Open university, Ocean University, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, University of Jaffna, Ruhuna University and NSBM Green University

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## Core Methodological Components:

### 1. Online Familiarisation Sessions

The capacity-building cycle began with online familiarisation sessions focused on foundation level climate change concepts and key thematic areas. This virtual component allowed participants to develop a shared understanding of:

- Climate change science and global trends
- Mitigation and adaptation strategies
- Climate resilience and climate justice
- Localised climate impacts and youth perspectives

This module was especially important for ensuring that all participants, including those without prior exposure to climate education, have a baseline familiarity with key ideas. It set the stage for deeper exploration and skill-building in the face-to-face workshops that followed.

### 2. Face-to-Face university workshops for skill development (Staggered, 2+2 Days)

Following the online sessions, participants engaged in two sets of face-to-face workshops (2 days each) hosted at each partner university.

These workshops focused on practical skills development aligned with inclusive climate leadership, including:

- Leadership
- Self-awareness and empathy
- Communication and storytelling
- Networking and collaboration
- Systems thinking
- Creativity and innovation
- Project planning and management

Sessions were highly participatory and included peer-led discussions as well.

### 3. Design of Youth-led Climate Actions

Following the workshops, students will be guided and encouraged to develop their own climate action ideas in small teams. These actions will reflect the learning from the programme and be grounded in the participants' local realities, interests, and institutional contexts.

Actions may take the form of mitigation and/or adaptation action, education initiatives, awareness/advocacy campaigns or collaborative research.

### 4. Mentoring and Coaching for Climate Action Implementation

Participants will receive targeted mentoring and coaching to support the design and implementation of their group climate action plans.

Mentors will be drawn from the pools of the two partner organisations who will be supporting the delivery of these programmes in universities.

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Coaching will focus on refining action ideas, resource mobilisation, troubleshooting, stakeholder engagement, and sustaining momentum.

#### 5. Webinars and Knowledge Series

To deepen learning post-workshop and maintain participant engagement, a series of practitioner-led virtual sessions will be offered. These sessions will explore practical, relatable topics that help participants connect climate action to everyday life, local contexts, and future careers.

Eg: Green jobs/future careers, storytelling, on-going climate projects in Sri Lanka and UK

#### 6. Showcasing event

A youth conference will be organised at the end of the project, which will be an end-of-cycle national level conference/showcase event to engage government agencies, international/local Non-government Organisations and civil society.

## Expected outcomes

This programme is expected to empower youth in higher education to become active contributors to a climate-resilient, socially inclusive future. The outcomes will reflect both individual transformation and systemic impact within the higher education and climate action ecosystems in Sri Lanka.

### **Outcome 1: Young people have developed leadership skills and networks to lead climate action.**

- Youth participants demonstrate increased confidence and capacity to initiate and lead climate-related initiatives within their universities and communities.
- Participants apply practical skills in leadership, systems thinking, communication, project planning, and innovation to real-world climate challenges.
- Intra and inter university peer networks and collaborations emerge, strengthening youth engagement across the climate action landscape.

### **Outcome 2: Young people have a better understanding of incorporating Gender Equality, Social Inclusion, and Social Cohesion (GESI/SC) into their climate action.**

- Participants can articulate the relevance of GESI and SC to climate change and reflect these values in the design and delivery of their climate actions.
- Increased awareness among university communities of the importance of equitable and inclusive leadership.
- Climate initiatives developed by youth adopt inclusive approaches, responding to the needs and voices of marginalised or underrepresented groups.

### **Outcome 3: Youth-led climate action ideas are implemented and shared in the universities.**

- A diverse range of youth-led climate action projects are initiated at the institutional, community, or digital levels.
- Youth stories and action results are documented and showcased at universities, national, and online platforms, creating inspiration and engagement.
- Universities begin to integrate youth-led sustainability practices and ideas into their extracurricular or academic offerings.

### **Outcome 4: Strengthened institutional partnerships and positioning within the higher education sector.**

- The programme deepens existing partnerships and initiates new relationships with universities, student bodies, and faculty.
- British Council's role as a key enabler of green and inclusive futures within the higher education space in Sri Lanka is strengthened.
- The initiative complements and aligns with the broader education programme, offering a model for future youth-led climate and sustainability engagement in the sector.

## **Deliverables for M&E Consultant**

1. Review project log frame and refine it with the British Council team. – 1 day
2. Devise a method of evaluating the overall impact of the project with indicators. – 2 days
3. Gather data, analyse and report the impact of the project and draw implications from the data. - 18 days
4. Draft a narrative, linking the various pieces of M&E data and providing a coherent narrative to the whole. - 5 days
5. Produce the final report after a meeting with British Council team. – 2 days

## **Required qualifications and experience**

### *Essential*

- minimum of 5 years' experience in project monitoring and evaluations
- post-graduate qualification in a relevant subject
- high level of analytical and English writing skills

### *Desirable*

- experience in education / skills / youth sectors will be advantageous.

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## Apply

Applications should include:

- CV tailored to the above requirements
- consultancy fee for this assignment

## Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

The British Council is committed to equal opportunities and diversity in all our activities. This includes avoiding bias due to gender, disability, racial or ethnic origin, sexual orientation, or religious belief.

The applicant is encouraged to work towards as equal a gender balance as possible and promote diversity. They must ensure that no one is excluded from participation based on ethnicity, gender, religious belief, sexual orientation, or disability.

For further information on the British Council's approach, and you could also see our Equality Policy at: [www.britishcouncil.org/organisation/transparency/policies/equality-diversity-inclusion](http://www.britishcouncil.org/organisation/transparency/policies/equality-diversity-inclusion).

## Application process

Applicants must submit their **Curriculum Vitae** via E-mail. The Email address to submit application is: [chameera.wickramasinghe@britishcouncil.org](mailto:chameera.wickramasinghe@britishcouncil.org)

The applicants need to comply with the British Council policies on prevention of fraud, bribery, money laundering and address any other financial and reputational risk that may affect a transparent and fair award process. See: [www.britishcouncil.org/organisation/transparency/policies/anti-fraud-and-corruption](http://www.britishcouncil.org/organisation/transparency/policies/anti-fraud-and-corruption).

## Application deadline

The submission deadline is **23.59, SL time on 26 October 2025**. Applications submitted after the deadline **will not be considered**.

## Data protection

### How we use your information:

The British Council will use the information that you provide to process your application, make any awards, monitoring and review. The legal basis for processing your information is in agreement with our terms and conditions of the contract.

The British Council complies with the General Data Protection Regulations 2016/679 (GDPR). We process and handle personal information according to these regulations. The personal information that you provide in this application form will only be used to process your application. The information will be viewed by the British Council staff and those who are a part of the decision-making process.



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Your information will not be used/shared beyond any partners listed above for any other purpose without your specific consent. If we need to contact you, we will do so using the contact details you have provided. Under the UK Data Protection law, you have the right to ask for a copy of the information we hold on you and the right to ask us to correct any inaccuracies in that information.

If you want more information about this, please contact your local British Council office or the Data Protection Team at: [inforgovernance@britishcouncil.org](mailto:inforgovernance@britishcouncil.org)

Or see our website: [www.britishcouncil.org/privacy-cookies/data-protection](http://www.britishcouncil.org/privacy-cookies/data-protection).

We will keep your information for a period of seven years after the project.

## **Applicant screening**

In order to comply with UK government legislation, the British Council may at any point during the application process, carry out searches of relevant third-party screening databases to ensure that neither the applicant nor any of the applicant's employees, partners, directors, shareholders is listed:

- as being wanted by Interpol or any national law enforcement body in connection with crime.
- as being subject to regulatory action by a national or international enforcement body.
- as being subject to export, trade, or procurement controls or (in the case of an individual) as being disqualified from being a company director.
- and/or as being a heightened risk individual or organisation, or (in the case of an individual) a politically exposed person.
- If the applicant or any other party is listed in a Screening Database for any of the reasons set out above, the British Council will assess the applicant as ineligible to apply for this opportunity.

The applicant must provide the British Council with all information reasonably requested by the British Council to complete the screening searches.

## **Contact Details**

All queries or comments about this call should be addressed to:  
[chameera.wickramasinghe@britishcouncil.org](mailto:chameera.wickramasinghe@britishcouncil.org)