

New scheme will fund UK students to visit India as part of their studies

Kolkata, July 24, 2019: Universities UK International (UUKi) and British Council India are delighted to announce the launch of the UKIERI Mobility Programme: *Study in India*, a bilateral pilot programme which will support UK universities to collaborate with Indian partners to send UK students to India as part of their studies.

The programme will open July 2019 and aims to generate up to 200 opportunities for undergraduate students at UK universities by March 2021, with priority given to students from traditionally under-represented groups. The British Council is the United Kingdom's international organisation for cultural relations and educational opportunities; in this capacity it promotes initiatives which support partnerships and student mobility across universities and countries.

The programme will support national and institutional-level objectives to:

- Increase the levels of outward student mobility from the UK to 13% by 2020, as set out in UUKi's *Go International: Stand Out campaign*
- Support the employability of UK graduates and help them prepare for a globally competitive workforce
- Support the internationalisation of Indian higher education through the diversification of the student body, and the consolidation of inter-institutional partnerships

Vivienne Stern, Director, Universities UK International said:

"We are delighted to support up to 200 UK students to study in India by March 2021. We know that students who go abroad tend to do better academically and professionally. We also know that exchanging students supports the development of strategic partnerships between universities. This scheme will be good for individual students and good for UK universities, but it also fits neatly with the Government of India's goal to attract a greater number of international students and support the development of international networks for some of India's strongest universities. This scheme will benefit all those involved, and I look forward to working with our partners in India to ensure it is a great success."

Barbara Wickham, OBE, Director British Council India said:

"The British Council is very pleased to launch the UKIERI Mobility Programme, contributing to the internationalisation of both Indian and UK higher education institutions. We believe students who have had an international experience as part of their education have a broader, more global perspective of their subject that they then take on to their professional lives. Through the Study in India programme, we hope to accelerate this inter-country exchange to give the best possible education to students for the mutual benefit of both countries."

The programme will be funded by the UK and Indian Governments as part of Phase 3 of the UK-India Education Research Initiative and delivered by the British Council, Universities UK International and EdCIL in India.

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About Universities UK International

Universities UK International (UUKi) represents UK higher education institutions (HEIs) globally and helps them flourish internationally. To do this we actively promote UK HEIs abroad, provide trusted information for and about them, and create new opportunities through our unique ability to act at sector level. We draw on UK university expertise to influence policy in the UK and overseas, delivering information, advice and guidance to facilitate mutually beneficial collaboration between UK HEIs and a broad range of international partners.
[@UUKIntl](http://international.ac.uk)

About the British Council

The British Council is the UK's international organisation for cultural relations and educational opportunities. We work with over 100 countries in the fields of arts and culture, English language, education and civil society. Last year we reached over 75 million people directly and 758 million people overall including online, broadcasts and publications. We make a positive contribution to the countries we work with – changing lives by creating opportunities, building connections and engendering trust. Founded in 1934 we are a UK charity governed by Royal Charter and a UK public body. We receive 15 per cent core funding grant from the UK government. www.britishcouncil.org

About UKIERI

UK-India Education and Research Initiative (UKIERI) started in April 2006 with the aim of enhancing educational linkages between India and the UK. UKIERI is funded from the UK by Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy, Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Scottish Government, Welsh Government and Department for Employment and Learning; and from India by Ministry of Human Resource Development, Department for Science and Technology, Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, University Grants Commission and All India Council for Technical Education and EdCIL. It is delivered by Universities UK International (UUKi) and British Council. UKIERI Phase 3 (2016-2021) aims to promote institutional and individual excellence in educational practices, research, and employability. It focuses on three areas: Education and Training and Research and Innovation. It draws investment from UK partners and matched funding from India.