



UCL Research, Innovation & Global Engagement (RIGE) Funding Call 2022–23:

SDGs: Pathways to Achievement

Summary

What is the funding for?

Collaborative activities that help to address the UN Sustainable Development Goals

When does the activity need to take place?

UCL financial year 2022–23, awards must be spent by 31 July 2023

Who can apply?

UCL staff and students, in collaboration with UCL or external partners

How much can I apply for?

Applications can be made for awards up to £10,000

What are the total funds available?

£60,000, which may be increased if budgets permit

What is the application deadline?

Monday 3 October 2022, 9am

Which RIGE team(s) are coordinating the call?

UCL SDGs Initiative, UCL Global Engagement and UCL Grand Challenges

Call Outline

UCL Research, Innovation & Global Engagement (RIGE) seeks to maximise UCL's positive research and innovation impact on the world through maximising income, optimising professional support for research, innovation and impact, creating cutting-edge institutional infrastructures and enabling a positive research and innovation culture.

As part of this support applications are invited from UCL-based researchers to secure seed funding for activities designed to hasten progress towards the achievement of the UN Sustainable Development Goals¹ (SDGs).

¹ The 17 [UN Sustainable Development Goals](#) (SDGs) are the core of the UN's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Adopted by all Member States in 2015, they provide a framework for the world's ongoing economic growth, while protecting the environment and addressing social inequalities. The Goals cover topics ranging from 'Decent Work & Economic Growth' and 'Good Health & Well-being' to 'Climate Action' and 'Industry, Innovation & Infrastructure'. The Goals are broken down into 169 individual Targets.

The UN SDGs and RIGE

As teams within RIGE, UCL Global Engagement (GE) and UCL Grand Challenges (GC) have been supporting activity addressing the SDGs through their combined ‘SDGs: *Pathways to Achievement*’ funding call over the past two academic years. GC’s contribution to the overall funding for the SDGs call was enabled by UCL alumnus Victor Chu’s (Chair of UCL Council) donation to UCL for grants made through GC programme initiatives.

The UCL SDGs Initiative (SDGI) was established in 2020–21 to maximise UCL’s impact on the SDGs. This year it has joined GE and GC in this funding call to stimulate and facilitate more SDG-related activities across UCL, including: across our world-class research and teaching; the ways we engage with local, national and global communities; the extra-curricular activities of our students; and the way we operate as an institution.

Funding call criteria

Applications for projects costing up to £10,000 will be considered. The total funds allocated for this scheme is £60,000, pending finalisation of RIGE budgets; this will be increased if budgets permit.

Applications should address the SDGs through one or more of the following ways:

- Cross-disciplinary research collaborations (i.e. from two or more faculties)
- Cross-border collaborations (i.e. with a global partner)
- Cross-boundary collaborations (i.e. between UCL-based researchers and staff of non-academic civil society organisations such as community groups, non-governmental organisations or independent think tanks)
- Collaborations between ‘types’ of activity at UCL (i.e., staff and/or student applications that combine research, teaching, operational and/or student extra-curricular activities)

Grants can support activities that generate societal impacts leading to outputs, including, but not limited to:

- Research or policy workshops, symposia or conferences
- Articles or comment pieces in peer publications or media channels
- Preparatory or exploratory research towards larger grant applications
- Public and community engagement activities
- Improvements to or new policies or operational activity at UCL that addresses (or mitigates UCL’s impact on) the SDGs
- Development of curricular, co-curricular or extra-curricular activity
- Research-led performance/public art-based outputs, including documentary films

Examples of previously funded activities can be found in Appendix A.



Exclusions

Allowable costs include payment for part-time research assistants. Please note the following items are not fundable under this scheme:

- Activities that will incur costs after 31 July 2023.
- Capital equipment costs
- Studies in basic science or research that is exclusively lab-based
- Article processing costs (publication fees)
- Staff 'buy-out', maintenance fees or bench fees

The UCL fiscal year-end is 31 July. All expenses must be invoiced by that date, with costed activities completed by Friday 21 July 2023. Use of awarded funds cannot be deferred to a later date.

Eligible applicants

At least one of the named applicants must be a member of UCL-based staff in an academic faculty, Professional Services division or Vice-President or Vice-Provost office.

Applicants can be a combination of:

- Member(s) of UCL staff
- UCL student(s)
- External academic partner(s), e.g. at another UK university or overseas
- Non-academic partner(s), e.g. a local authority, NGO, community or business organisation.

We strongly welcome and encourage external collaborators, including third sector organisations, policy, think tanks, industry, and charities whose expertise and missions focus on societal impact.

Applications must nominate a first applicant, who will act as the point of contact for communications and financial/budget transactions. **This must be a member of UCL staff.**

If the second applicant is also from UCL, they must be based in a faculty or unit that is different from the first applicant.

As this is a RIGE-based funding initiative, UCL RIGE staff members are not eligible to stand as Lead or 1st Applicant (i.e. they are not permitted to be grant recipients), but may stand as 2nd Applicant or as an Additional Collaborator.

As part of our commitment to equity and inclusion in relation to the Equality Act 2010, we would particularly like to encourage applications from colleagues who identify as underrepresented groups including, but not limited to, women, BAME, LGBT+ community and disabled individuals at UCL to apply for this opportunity.

Assessment of applications and notification of decisions

Applications will be assessed by panels comprising members of RIGE, professional services staff and academic colleagues from across UCL.



The scoring criteria will include:

- Quality of the application and originality of topic and/or approach
- The extent to which the funded activity is cross-disciplinary, cross-activity and cross-boundary (academia to civil society)
- Strengths of the collaborating applicants and any external partners
- The extent to which the activity addresses one or more of the SDGs
- The extent to which the proposal is achievable within the timeframe and budget

The deadline for applications is Monday 3 October 2022, 9am. Funding decisions will be announced in late October / early November 2022, to enable access to awarded funds between 1 December 2022 and 31 July 2023.

Terms and conditions

By submitting this form, applicants indicate their agreement if successful to:

- Provide a short report at the end of the academic year to describe activities, outputs, and impact.
- Permit UCL RIGE to publicise the immediate, medium, and long-term outcomes attributable to funded projects.
- Acknowledge UCL RIGE support in publications or external communications, using our visual identity guidance.

Submitting your application

To submit your application, please read this application guidance carefully, [download and complete the application form](#) and [submit it via the online platform](#).

Please direct any questions to:

James Paskins, Grand Challenges (j.paskins@ucl.ac.uk)

Queries on activities involving cross-disciplinary research collaborations

Chris Cook, Global Engagement (c.cook@ucl.ac.uk)

Queries on activities involving cross-border collaborations

Simon Knowles, UCL SDGs Initiative (s.knowles@ucl.ac.uk)

Queries on activities involving collaborations between 'types' of activity at UCL



Appendix A: Previous SDGs: Pathways to Achievement awards

2020–21

Policy Toolkit for achieving SDGs in Durban through sanitation (ToolSanDurban)

Award: £10,000

Dr Priti Parikh, UCL Bartlett School of Construction and Project Management (Bartlett Faculty of the Built Environment) and Dr Pascale Hofmann, UCL Development Planning Unit (Bartlett Faculty of the Built Environment)

A Shared Agenda for the UN SDGs on Biodiversity and Climate Change: Opportunities, Challenges and Governance Implications

Award: £7,797.87

Dr Tom Pegram, UCL Political Science (Faculty of Social & Historical Sciences) and Dr Nathalie Seddon (Zoology, University of Oxford)

Guarani and Kaiowá Virtual Museum: Experimental Approaches to Collaborative Heritage

Award: £9,867.03

Dr Ludovic Coupaye, UCL Anthropology (Faculty of Social & Historical Sciences) and Fabiana Fernandes (Institute for the Development of Art and Culture)

The Humanities and the SDGs

Award: £8,466.50

Professor Nicola Miller UCL Institute of Advanced Studies (Joint Faculties of Social & Historical Sciences and Arts & Humanities) and Professor Maurice Biriotti (Faculty of Arts & Humanities)

Investigating the global impact of some of the nation's favourite foods to promote 'SDG friendly' consumer behaviours for individual and societal wellbeing

Award: £8,077.88

Dr Abbie Chapman, UCL Bartlett School Env, Energy & Resources (Bartlett Faculty of the Built Environment) and Dr Charlie Outhwaite, UCL Centre for Biodiversity and Environment Research (Faculty of Life Sciences)

Participatory action research art and the SDGs: connecting communities with goals

Award: £10,232.24

Dr Joanna Morrison, UCL Institute for Global Health (Faculty of Population Health Sciences) and Satish Sah (Janakpur Women's Development Centre)

The contributions of public health policies and healthcare quality to changes in life expectancy and the gender gap in life expectancy in the UK

Award: £4,800

Dr Francesco Salustri, UCL Institute for Global Health (Faculty of Population Health Sciences) and Dr Ali Kiadaliri (Clinical Epidemiology Unit, Lund University)

Removing Language Barriers to Empower Patients and Public Engagement in Africa: A campaign focusing on Parkinson's Disease (PD)

Award: £10,000

Dr Mie Rizig Neuromuscular Disease, UCL Institute of Neurology (Faculty of Brain Sciences) and Omotola Thomas (Parkinson's Africa)



Supporting communities against homicides in Cali, Colombia

Award: £7,600

Dr Hervé Borrión, UCL Security and Crime Science (Faculty of Engineering Sciences) and Major Eryvn Norza (National Police of Colombia)

How Wellbeing is Affected by Economic/Infrastructure Development in Bhutan: Rural to Urban Migration, Intergenerational Relations, and Informal Care Networks

Award: £9,675.31

Dr Joseph Calabrese, UCL Anthropology (Faculty of Social & Historical Sciences) and Dr Ulrike Cokl (Bhutan Network)

How can we assess learning at scale among refugee communities? Insights from Uganda

Award: £8,302

Dr Benjamin Alcott, IoE Education, Practice and Society (UCL Institute of Education) and Dr Mary Goretti Nakabugo (Uwezo Uganda)

2021–22

Leaving No One Behind, Whatever Language they Speak: The Language Data Initiative

Award: £9,900.15

Professor Federico M. Federici, Centre for Translation Studies, CMII, UCL SELCS (Faculty of Arts & Humanities) and Mr Jason Symons, CLEAR Global

Unravelling the socio-economic inequalities in grassroots physical activity in England.

Award: £5,500

Dr Francesco Salustri, UCL Institute for Global Health (Faculty of Population Health Sciences) and Dr Paolo Candio, University of Birmingham

Advancing and sustaining progress towards UN SDGs in African drylands – crossing disciplinary and international boundaries

Award: £9,842

Professor Richard Taylor, UCL Geography (Faculty of Social & Historical Sciences) and Dr Mohammad Shamsudduha, UCL Institute of Risk & Disaster Reduction (Faculty of Mathematical & Physical Sciences)

Digging for SDGs: Laying Foundations for Sustainability in the Higher Education Sector

Award: £9,568.40

Professor Jane Holder, UCL Laws (Faculty of Laws) and John Dubber, UCL Students' Union

Promoting healthcare innovation with a “Dragon’s Den”-style competition through a virtual innovation platform

Award: £4,975.54

Professor Mark Miodownik, UCL Mechanical Engineering (Faculty of Engineering Sciences) and Dr Ana Rita Pinho, UCL Mechanical Engineering (Faculty of Engineering Sciences)

