

Green Skills for Jobs and Entrepreneurship: Evaluation – call for quotes

Introduction

The University of the West of England, Bristol, in collaboration with the Black South West Network and NatWest are delivering the Green Skills for Jobs and Entrepreneurship (Green Skills) project, funded by the UK Government's Community Renewal Fund.

This pilot project will address the skills shortages essential for delivering the West of England's net zero ambitions by providing training, entrepreneurship and employment opportunities for young people disproportionately affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Project will give recent graduates and young people - in and returning to the region - the skills and practical experience needed to support the region's transition to a green economy, and generate a pipeline of talent and entrepreneurship for its cluster of emerging green industries. The Project will encourage participation from Black British and British Asian young people, in recognition of the employment gap that exists for black graduates and inspired by the #10000BlackInterns initiative.

More broadly, the project will support the region's ambition for inclusive growth, providing opportunities for Black British and British Asian heritage entrepreneurs and business founders to access skills development and talent - communities that have previously reported difficulty in accessing mainstream support.

We are looking for an external consultant to undertake an evaluation of this project, reviewing the successes, learnings and outcomes from the project.

Project Activity

Workstream 1&2: Green skills for jobs, entrepreneurship and social enterprise programme

- 5 x cohorts of 15 recent graduates and young people
- 1 day a week for 8 weeks + final employer/pitch event
- All participants to receive living wage (8 days) + travel expenses

Workstream 3: Green skills, internships and entrepreneurship vouchers

Towards completion of the 8-week programme, all participants will have the opportunity to apply for further training, entrepreneurship or internship opportunities through the following routes:

1. Green industry internships
2. Green research internships
3. Green social enterprise incubation
4. GreenTech incubation
5. Green skills training

Workstream 4: Evaluation

- To be delivered mid-July 2022.

Workstream 5: Green Skills and Entrepreneurship Hub

The project's significant legacy will include a Green Skills and Entrepreneurship Hub, providing an online toolbox of skills and business support for learners, entrepreneurs, businesses and social enterprises. This will include access to bite-sized training modules, talent and employment opportunities, and a platform for communities to connect.

Project Outputs

This 6-month project started on 1 January 2022 will end on 30 June 2022.

The project has a number of contracted output targets:

- 75 young people/recent graduates attending training
- 25 businesses or organisations engaged in delivery and internships
- 55 young people/recent graduates moving into ongoing training
- 20 young people/recent graduates in employment following support
- 5 new businesses created as a result of support

We are asking the appointed consultant to review the following areas, in addition to any others they may find appropriate:

- appropriateness of initial design
- progress against targets
- delivery and management
- outcomes and impact
- value for money
- lessons learnt

The project team will work alongside the consultant to identify all appropriate data and contact beneficiaries.

Further guidance can be found on the UK Community Renewal Fund website (Section 3):

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/uk-community-renewal-fund-further-monitoring-and-evaluation-guidance-for-project-deliverers>.

There is limited guidance, with the focus being on using the best evaluation technique for the funded project. We are looking for potential consultants to approach us with innovative ideas and have a particular focus on our target groups of young people, recent graduates and Black British and British Asian people.

Applications

Applicants must demonstrate knowledge of evaluating government funded projects, particularly projects working with our key target participants.

Applications will be assessed against the following criteria:

1. Experience of:
 - a. working with young people and graduates
 - b. evaluating schemes targeting support Black British or British Asian people
 - c. Working with government funding such as ERDF, ESF or similar

2. Delivery plan
3. Value for money

This information will need to be compiled into one document and submitted prior to the deadline. Please also provide us with your proposed fee for delivery of the above contract. There is a maximum budget of £12,000 committed for this work.

Please email this to kathryn2.sensier@uwe.ac.uk no later than 11.59pm on **2 February 2022**.