

Clarification Questions Responses – Batch 1 - Published 27/08/24

No.	Question	Response
1	<p><i>"We hope to be able to offer those taking part in the scheme the chance to test out their ideas for real with an opportunity to bid to investors at the end of the fellowship... At the end of the scheme, participants will have the opportunity to bid to investors."</i> Our existing [Bidder] programme already offers an opportunity for participants to pitch to a panel of business owners at the end of the training period, and then supports the successful entrepreneurs with start-up grants from the programme budget. Please confirm whether the above-mentioned opportunity (and related funds) for Fellows to bid to investors will be organised by CSC or the Delivery Partner?"</p>	<p>Primary responsibility for arranging an opportunity to bid to investors will sit with the Delivery Partner but the CSC has started to explore opportunities within its own network as well and we will lend support in any way we can. It is not possible within the remit of our funding to offer start-up-grants to participants.</p>
2	<p>Will the parameters of success in the 12, 24 and 36 months post-programme be evaluated solely by the CSC with no involvement from the Delivery Partner?</p>	<p>Full responsibility for the evaluation of the programme will sit with the CSC.</p>
3	<p>As this is a pilot programme, does the CSC have any guidance on maximum numbers of participants allowed?</p>	<p>There is no maximum number of participants, the CSC would like as many participants as possible to take part in the programme within the constraints of time/funding/recruitment.</p>
4	<p>Do we need to supply a venue, training or support for the capstone in the UK?</p>	<p>No, the CSC will lead on the UK event including the venue and funding any travel.</p>

5	We understand that CSC will be responsible for the evaluation of the scheme! Our question is what data would CSC require for the delivery partner to collect to enable this?	Full details of the evaluation of the scheme are yet to be decided. The CSC's evaluation team will liaise with the delivery partner from early on in the design phase to ensure a smooth collaboration.
6	Is the funder paying all travel and subsistence for the entrepreneurs for the capstone in the UK?	Please refer to the answer to question 4. Bidders do not need to include any reference to the UK capstone event in their bid.
7	Can the lead partner have a sub-contractor or partner organisation based in the UK that is not either a publicly funded organisation or a charity?	The <i>only</i> exception to the requirement that organisations applying are either a publicly funded organisation or a charity, would be if the partner organisation was a non-profit organisation. The CSC would accept non-profit organisations for the partner organisation <i>only</i> . Lead organisations must be either a publicly funded body or a charity.
8	Can we confirm whether the programme should support a minimum of 12 participants per year (i.e. a minimum of 24 participants in total), or a minimum of 12 participants in total?	A minimum of 12 participants per year (24 in total).
9	Do you have any requirements for the handling of intellectual property rights for business ideas developed during the fellowship?	Not at this stage. As a general rule, the CSC does not assert any Intellectual property rights over the work of its scholars and fellows. Full details of how intellectual property rights should be handled will be outlined in the final contract.
10	Could we please have the slides from the call clarifications and/or video recording?	Yes, they have been uploaded to Contracts Finder alongside this document.
11	Could you please confirm if we are allowed more than 3 consortium partners?	The CSC has set no limit on the number of consortium partners that are allowed.

12	Recognising the flexibility offered in designing the programme, what is the minimum required number of in person sessions?	There is only a <i>requirement</i> of one in person session as part of each iteration of the programme, however we would welcome further sessions if the budget allows, particularly towards to end of the scheme.
13	If there is more than one in-person session required, do they need to be spread across different countries or can we focus on one country for both years of this tender?	No in-person sessions do not need to be spread across different countries and can be the same country for both years.
14	Can we partner with another institution in the commonwealth as part of the delivery?	Yes, we welcome consortium bids.
15	The tender specification makes reference to Bootcamps. Is there a distinction between bootcamp and programme in this context? If so, can the bootcamps be online?	The reference to 'bootcamp' is aimed at emphasising the practical (or learning by doing) focus of the programme. We do not wish for it to be an academic training programme but a scheme through which entrepreneurs can actively develop their businesses.
16	Finally, are you able to give more information on the level of business, for example idea stage or seed stage, that the proposed programme should be aimed at?	We have intentionally said 'early-stage' entrepreneurs to allow for some flexibility in the definition. Outside of that we are happy for teams to make their own decisions about how best to focus the programme/recruitment particularly depending on where their own expertise/experience lies and where they feel a programme of this kind could have the greatest impact. Please note, the CSC is not able to offer any investment funds to participants taking part in the scheme.
17	Are you able to advise us what additional forms/questions there may be beyond the 'Required documentation' page? We are unable to move forward without uploading the documents.	A full list of required submissions can be found in the 'Instructions to Tenderers' document in the Tender Pack.

18	[Bidder] is already delivering services to the Commonwealth Scholarship Commission through the Distance Learning Scholarships 2023. Are we able to provide The Commission as a referee?	No, the Commission cannot act as a referee for bidders of the programme.
19	Do you require two letters to be submitted one outlining experience and interest. One detailing authorisation to bid details. Or do you require a single letter from an authorised signatory outlining experience, interest etc and the signatory's authority to bid.?	We require a single letter detailing, your organisation's expertise in delivering entrepreneurial training, delivering in a virtual/remote setting and in an international context, motivation for participating in this programme.
20	In what format would you like the budget, do you have any templates that you would prefer us to use?	There is no template we would prefer you to use.
21	Who will own the IP for the course content?	<p>All agreements around Intellectual property will be outlined in full in the final contract. Standard CSC practice however is that:</p> <p>Ownership of any Background Intellectual Property used in the programme remains with the Delivery Partner but the CSC is granted a non-exclusive, worldwide, perpetual, sublicensable, irrevocable and royalty-free licence to use it for anything relating to the programme.</p> <p>Any new Intellectual Property developed as part of the programme delivery (not any IP developed by participants) is owned by the Delivery Partner but the CSC is granted an exclusive, worldwide, perpetual, sublicensable, irrevocable and royalty-free licence to use it for anything relating to the programme.</p> <p>New Intellectual Property is, wherever possible, licensed on a Creative Commons basis using the CC BY NC SA licence.</p>

22	How will you determine fluency in written and spoken English? Do the applicants require a formal qualification i.e. IELTS or a localised qualification to the country they reside in or will self-declaration suffice?	There is no formal requirement from the CSC for Fellowship programmes. We would however expect the Delivery Partner to make some assessment to ensure that all participants have sufficient language capability to fully take part in the programme.
23	Is 'the opportunity for participants to bid to investors' something the delivery partner needs to build into the end of the programme? We read this as being separate to the capstone event that will be held by the CSC.	The opportunity for participants to bid to investors is separate from the capstone event. The CSC would like it to be built into the end of the programme by the Delivery Partner. Please see answers to questions 1 and 4 for further details.