

## Briefing document

### *Anhar: Culture and Climate Platform*

## Overview

Art Jameel and the British Council are delighted to present **Anhar: Culture and Climate Platform**, which supports ambitious projects in the arts and cultural sector that engage with the climate emergency. Focused on supporting cultural practitioners in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA)\*, this collaboration brings together Art Jameel and the British Council's long-standing goals and climate-focused programmes in an effort to diversify and increase support for creative responses to the climate emergency. **Anhar: Culture and Climate Platform** builds on findings and key priorities for the MENA cultural sector following the **Culture and Climate Summit**, a workshop and seminar that explored the role of culture and the arts in addressing the climate emergency, organised by Art Jameel and supported by the British Council in March 2023.

*\*Countries in the MENA eligible for this programme include:*

Algeria, Bahrain, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Occupied Palestinian Territories, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen

## Climate change and COP28

The UAE will host the 28th United Nations Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP28) in Dubai from November 30 – December 12, 2023. In this decisive decade for climate action, the UAE will seek to unite the world towards agreement on bold, practical, and ambitious solutions to the most pressing global challenge of our time. COP28 UAE will be a milestone moment when the world will take stock of its progress for the first time since adopting the Paris Agreement in 2015. This will help align efforts on climate action, including measures that need to be put in place to bridge the gaps in progress.

Looking after the planet requires understanding and empathy, collaboration and connections, imagination and innovation. It is also imperative that we involve younger generations in these efforts. In the British Council's fourth survey of almost 40,000 young people (aged 18 – 34) across 36 countries, climate change was highlighted as the most important issue for them. The next generation are the custodians of the future, and it is envisaged that this will be reflected in successful applications.

Art Jameel and the British Council are aligned in harnessing this moment of regional and international focus on the climate emergency to launch legacy programmes by and for the creative and cultural scenes of the MENA region.

## Tier 2 Programme Brief

**Organisations applying for Tier 2** must be registered in one of the countries eligible for British Council MENA Region programmes (Algeria, Bahrain, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Occupied Palestinian Territories, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen)

We hope that the breadth of projects supported will stimulate conversations and connections, bringing together people, cultures and communities to understand each other's perspectives and collaborate on creative responses and solutions towards climate change.

For **Tier 2** we are looking to support cultural organisations who are seeking to reduce their carbon footprint through the development and/or implementation of a decarbonisation strategy. Examples include conducting carbon emission audits, purchasing solar panels, developing green spaces, developing carbon measurement frameworks, recycling schemes, attending training, translation and dissemination of existing toolkits and resources into a local language, etc.

### **Examples of projects that can be supported include:**

- Projects that support the measurement and/or active decarbonisation of cultural initiatives (theatres, residency spaces, arts and culture organisations)
- Installation of renewable energy infrastructure such as solar panels, wind turbines or batteries
- Installation of low energy lighting fixtures such as LED lighting for exhibitions
- The permanent and intentional greening of public areas such as roof terraces to support local flora, fauna and insect populations
- Commissioning of a GreenHouse Gas audit for both programme and building operations
- Research that supports transition to equity/sustainable action at the governance levels (in cultural organisations)

### **Eligibility**

- **Tier 2** applicants must be registered in one of the countries eligible for British Council MENA Region programmes (Algeria, Bahrain, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Occupied Palestinian Territories, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Yemen)
- **Tier 2:** Awards grants of £5,000 to £10,000 (\$6,000 to \$12,000) to **cultural organisations** to reduce their carbon and waste footprint through the development and implementation of a decarbonisation strategy, including material works and investments in renewable energy infrastructures.
- The Tier 2 selection process may include shortlisted applicants being invited in **January-February 2024** to discuss their proposals with an expert in decarbonisation strategies for the culture sector, and thus refining their budget and plans, before being subsequently awarded a grant.

- Applicants will be expected to plan, design and realise their project during the calendar year 2024.
- Applicants should demonstrate that they have taken into consideration the local context in their relevant countries, including any legislation around renewable energy installation and use.
- Successful applicants may be invited to take part in additional showcase opportunities and British Council and Art Jameel alumni programmes in the future.
- Successful applicants will be required to maintain regular communication with Art Jameel and the British Council, offering project updates and supporting the project monitoring and evaluation.
- Successful candidates will be required to produce a narrative and financial report at the end of the project, including activities, reach, impact, outcomes and actual spend.
- Successful applicants will own the copyright of any work created but must grant the British Council and Art Jameel, as the commissioning partners, free and unequivocal use for non-commercial purposes of any arising outputs (where applicable), which may include promotion of works through our digital channels or exhibiting works in the future. This would all be done in collaboration with the artists/creative producers of the work

### **Selection criteria**

Applications will be reviewed by a diverse panel of representatives from the British Council and Art Jameel, along with guest panellists, representing a range of sectors.

Our assessment of successful applicants will be based on the following criteria:

- Impact – the potential impact the proposed project will have on the organisation's decarbonisation goals/sustainability goals and how the organisation might communicate about these to the public. An understanding of the local context and climate change priorities is an asset.
- Budget – the extent to which costings are appropriately calculated, reflect good value for money, are relevant to the proposed approach.
- Technical feasibility- whether the appropriate technical studies have been carried out to determine the feasibility of the project.
- Applicants may be approached with clarification questions or to attend an interview with the panel. Applicants must be available to respond and/or attend an interview (conducted digitally) in line with the schedule below.

### **How to apply**

Applications should be submitted by **January 15, 2024** by midnight in your local time zone.

Applications submitted after this date and time will not be considered by the reviewing panel.

If you have any questions about grant criteria and eligibility please email [ccp@artjameel.org](mailto:ccp@artjameel.org) and allow at least three working days for a response.

Applications can be submitted through the online application available on Art Jameel's website. Applications for Tier 2 must include a detailed budget using the provided budget template, accessible through the online form. Applicants who may have additional access needs and would prefer to submit their application in another format should get in touch prior to the deadline. We will endeavour to do everything we can to accommodate any needs.

We look forward to receiving your application.

## **Data protection and consent**

Art Jameel and British Council comply with data protection law that meet internationally accepted standards. You have the right to ask for a copy of the information and biodata we hold on you, and the right to ask us to correct any inaccuracies in that information. If you have concerns about how we have used your personal information, you also have the right to complain to a privacy regulator.

For detailed information, please refer to the privacy section of our website, [www.britishcouncil.org/privacy](http://www.britishcouncil.org/privacy) or contact your local British Council office. We will keep your information for ten years from the time of collection.

## **About Art Jameel**

[Art Jameel](#) supports artists and creative communities. Founded and supported by the Jameel family philanthropies, the independent organisation is headquartered in Saudi Arabia and the UAE and works globally. Art Jameel's programmes – across exhibitions, commissions, research, learning and community-building – are grounded in a dynamic understanding of the arts as fundamental to life and accessible to all.

Art Jameel's two institutions – [Jameel Arts Centre](#), an innovative institution for contemporary art and ideas in Dubai, UAE, and [Hayy Jameel](#), a dedicated complex for the arts and creativity in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia – are complemented by digital initiatives plus collaborations with major institutional partners and a network of practitioners across the world.

## **About the British Council**

'Anhar: Culture and Climate Platform' is one of many activities the British Council is delivering in the run up to COP28. We are working with partners in the UK and across the MENA region to

create opportunities for cooperation, dialogue and action which address the shared challenge of climate change.

Find out more about our previous Climate Commissions here:

<https://www.britishcouncil.org/climate-connection/be-inspired/creative-commissions>

The British Council supports peace and prosperity by building connections, understanding and trust between people in the UK and countries worldwide.

The British Council works in two ways – directly with individuals to transform their lives, and with governments and partners to make a bigger difference for the longer term, creating benefit for millions of people all over the world. It works on the ground in more than 100 countries.

The British Council helps young people to gain the skills, confidence and connections they are looking for to realise their potential and to participate in strong and inclusive communities. Their work in arts and culture stimulates creative expression and exchange and nurtures creative enterprise.

The British Council connects the best of the UK with the world and the best of the world with the UK. These connections lead to an understanding of each other's strengths and of the challenges and values that we share. This builds trust between people in the UK and other nations which endures even when official relations may be strained.