



# Uzbekistan – United Kingdom Education Forum

March 4-5, 2024

## *Programme*

### *Session 1*

#### **Session Abstract Session 1**

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This session focuses on the critical role played by HE policy, HEIs and HE collaborations in changing society for the better, in local and global contexts. It will discuss how universities respond to the changing needs of the global and local markets. It is intended to stimulate reflection on the practices that enable that role to be developed and delivered.

#### **Session Title**

Meeting the Needs of Global and Local Contexts and Making Positive Change: the Role of Universities and University Partnerships

#### **Session Organisers**

Jamilya Gulyamova, Deputy Director, British Council Uzbekistan  
Alexandra Hughes, Former Deputy Vice Chancellor (Global Engagement and Employability),  
University of Westminster

#### **Session Chair**

Denise Waddingham, Director, British Council Uzbekistan

#### **Session Participants**

Komiljon Karimov, First Deputy Minister, Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Innovations of the Republic of Uzbekistan  
Saurav Dev Bhatta, Senior Economist, World Bank  
Maddalaine Ansell, Director Education, British Council, UK  
Gerald Lidstone, Director, ICCE, Goldsmiths  
Viren Lall, Managing Director, ChangeSchool

#### **Session Objectives**

This session centres on the ‘social mission’ of Higher Education. It concerns itself with the socially responsive and responsible engagements that Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) enact within their institutions and with collaborative partners (educational, societal, governmental and business/industry) to enhance the societal and human good.

Social responsibility in Higher Education is a matter of global concern. This session will address the dynamic role played by Higher Educational policy, and Higher Education institutions (HEIs), in initiating and delivering positive change - educational, cultural, economic, societal - required in and by local and global environments. The role of universities in catalysing and driving societal impact and meeting 'real world' challenges, in and beyond Uzbekistan, will be a particular focus. The session will also explore some of the ways in which local, national, and international partnerships, whether university-to-university or between the university sector and external bodies and agencies, can act as engines for better understanding the needs of local and global contexts and creating strategies and practices that proactively address those needs. It is intended to enhance understanding of HE as an agent of transformation.

Speakers will address this topic in relation to how universities and university partnerships, networks and collaborations engender positive societal change in Uzbekistan, Central Asia and internationally.

### **Session Outcomes**

The session will enable participants to reflect on the range of impacts engendered by Higher Education in local and global environments, and the structures and mechanisms that enable these impacts to be made. It will encourage the further development of socially responsible and responsive Higher Education practice, within institutions and through institutional partnerships, in the UK and Uzbekistan and beyond.

### **Pre-session Activity**

We suggest that participants reflect in advance of the session on the key areas and activities within their own institutions that are most driven by the need for, and drive forward, change, whether educational, cultural, economic, or societal. These may relate for instance to engagement with 'real world' challenges (those allied to social disparity and to discrimination); with the skills development and capacity building needs particular to local environments, and/or with global change agendas such as that of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

### **Pre-reading**

Useful material on the positive impacts of HE and HE partnerships, within and outside the HE sphere, includes:

<https://www.universitiesuk.ac.uk/topics/impact-universities>

<https://www.britishcouncil.org/education/he-science/knowledge-centre/transnational-education/impacts-transnational>

<https://www.britishcouncil.org/education/he-science/knowledge-centre/transnational-education/value-transnational-education>

<https://creativespark.uz/web>

<https://ihes.upol.cz/>