



CALOUSTE  
GULBENKIAN  
FOUNDATION

UK BRANCH

IN

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THE MAJORITY OF  
OUR FUNDING WILL  
BE PROACTIVE

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WE WILL IDENTIFY AND WORK  
WITH PARTNERS WHOSE ACTIVITIES  
WILL BEST MEET OUR AIMS

INFORMATION ABOUT  
FUNDING CAN BE FOUND  
ON OUR WEBSITE

We aim...

...to help improve people's perception of each other by providing opportunities for interaction through culture and between cultures...

...to assist the most disadvantaged in society to fulfil their potential by building connections and developing opportunities...

...to help in the development of a society which benefits from a more sustainable relationship with the natural world and understands the value of its resources...

...to contribute to enhanced effectiveness of the organisations we work with, maintaining an interest in sectoral developments and seeking to influence others in maximising social and cultural value...

# CALOUSTE GULBENKIAN FOUNDATION

## UK BRANCH

We are part of a charitable foundation established in Portugal in 1956 with cultural, educational, social and scientific interests. The Foundation's headquarters are in Lisbon with offices in London and Paris. Its founder, Calouste Gulbenkian, was an Armenian born in Turkey who worked in Britain and became a British citizen, lived in France and settled in Portugal. He was multicultural and multilingual and spent his career bringing people from different cultures and nationalities together. Our interests today lie in looking across issues and making connections.

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### OUR PURPOSE

The purpose of the UK Branch is to help enrich and connect the experiences of individuals in the UK and Ireland and secure lasting beneficial change. We have a special interest in those who are most disadvantaged and we place a particular emphasis on maximising the beneficial impact of our work through encouraging cross-border exchanges of lessons and experiences.

#### **Three key issues concern us:**

**Cultural Understanding** How we encourage understanding between people of different cultures

**Fulfilling Potential** How we assist individuals, especially the vulnerable, to fulfil their potential and contribute to society

**Environment** How we protect and care for the environment

#### **The values that characterise all our work include aspiring to be:**

**Innovative, International,  
Independent yet Involving**

The UK Branch has a history of being innovative. As a small organisation we can be nimble but cannot provide continuous large-scale funding. As part of one of the largest European foundations we are well positioned to address transnational issues and act as an 'exchange' for ideas that can benefit the work of the Foundation as a whole.

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## HOW WE WORK Our approach

To achieve a greater impact, we are supporting fewer organisations with larger amounts of money.

We work proactively by identifying needs and collaborating with a number of key organisations to help meet them.

We support projects, partnerships and, indirectly, people.

These partnerships and activities are selected by the Foundation and are time-limited from one to four years.

Occasionally, we will invite new funding proposals for specific initiatives.

We place an emphasis on evaluating the impact achieved and communicating the lessons to those who can take these forward and help exact a greater impact.

### We will work to achieve our aims by:

**Exploring** Gathering evidence from research, identifying what works

**Exchanging** Connecting to practical experience and building coalitions

**Explaining** Advocating and communicating the outcomes of work to those who can effect change

**Exiting** Ensuring a legacy and moving on when the time is right.

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## WHERE WE FUND UK & Ireland

Please note this leaflet describes only the work of the Foundation in the UK. The funding channelled through the UK Branch is exclusively intended for organisations based in the UK and Ireland. We will support projects outside London in preference to those based in the capital. Although funding at national, regional and local levels, we want to ensure that we support projects that have a benefit beyond the locality in which they are situated, and which have potential for future international application.

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## HOW TO APPLY FOR FUNDING

Funding is available to support a small number of truly exceptional ideas and/or projects that contribute to meeting the identified objectives under our three main strategic aims: Cultural Understanding, Fulfilling Potential and Environment. To find out how to apply please refer to the guidelines on our website: [www.gulbenkian.org.uk](http://www.gulbenkian.org.uk)

**Please note this is currently the only funding stream open for applications.**

# OUR OBJECTIVES

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## Strategic Aim 1: Cultural Understanding

*To help improve people's perception of each other by providing opportunities for interaction through culture and between cultures...*

- we will see through to completion a visually [high profile public art project](#) undertaken by the Photographers' Gallery to take place [during the Olympic Games](#) in 2012;
- we will support [strategic visual arts initiatives](#) which promote new international arts practice, [particularly work from Portugal](#) that has had insufficient exposure in the UK;
- we will undertake initiatives to [promote multilingualism](#) in the UK, and [international literature in translation](#) for adults and children, in collaboration with other literary agencies, including the British Centre for Literary Translation, Free Word Centre, Translators Association and Literature Across Frontiers;
- we will explore the potential for future programmes in areas that reflect the Foundation's interests, including [faith](#).

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## Strategic Aim 2: Fulfilling Potential

*To assist the most disadvantaged in society to fulfil their potential by building connections and developing opportunities...*

- we will help improve the quality and coherence of services for individuals facing multiple needs and exclusions through support of the [Making Every Adult Matter](#) coalition and its work to help local areas design and deliver coordinated service interventions;
- we will support and develop more meaningful connections for older people and across generations particularly through exploration and promotion of [an all ages approach](#) to public, voluntary and private sector practice, including dissemination of the [IntergenerationAll](#) programme and work of the [EMIL](#) network, research into grandparenting across the EU, and activities during the [European Year of Active Ageing and Solidarity between Generations](#) in 2012; we will also support measures which tackle loneliness in older age, including the [Campaign to End Loneliness](#).

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### **Strategic Aim 3: Environment**

*To help in the development of a society which benefits from a more sustainable relationship with the natural world and understands the value of its resources...*

- we will identify strategies that have impact in [promoting the value of the environment](#) and help to drive change to more sustainable lifestyles, through a creative engagement with the natural world, including support for Botanic Gardens Conservation International, Galapagos Conservation Trust and the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (for their environmental valuation work);
- we will identify and promote some effective strategies to help [green the economy](#), including through support for Fauna and Flora International's work on the Natural Value Initiative, and for Capacity Global;
- we will identify and [scope new areas of need](#) evolving from existing objectives, including support for [Climate Outreach and Information Network](#) (COIN) and a new programme focused on the [economics of ocean biodiversity](#) and ecosystem services.

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### **Strategic Aim 4: Maximising Social and Cultural Value**

*To contribute to enhanced effectiveness of the organisations we work with, maintaining an interest in sectoral developments and seeking to influence others in maximising social and cultural value...*

- we will develop the third year of a new programme, commissioning an [annual major international arts project](#) in the UK that addresses at least one of our three main strategic aims and delivers demonstrable social and cultural impact;
- we will engage with others in [developing the capacity of organisations](#) to maximise their impact by developing systems to share learning and better account for impact;
- we will maintain awareness and (where appropriate) support initiatives which promote [social leadership, enterprise and innovation](#) including continuing funding for the Clore Social Leadership Programme and SIX (Social Innovation Exchange).