

<p>Co-chomhairle Riaghaltas na h-Alba air Ro-innleachd Cultair Eadar-nàiseanta</p> <p>Freagairt bho Bhòrd na Gàidhlig</p> <p>20 Giblean 2023</p>	<p>Scottish Government International Culture Strategy Consultation</p> <p>Response from Bòrd na Gàidhlig</p> <p>20 April 2022</p>
<p>Ceist 1: Dè a’ ghnìomhachd eadar-nàiseanta a bhios sibh ris an-dràsta?</p> <p>Stèidhichte fo Achd na Gàidhlig (Alba) 2005, ’s e buidheann poblach neo-roinneil de Riaghaltas na h-Alba a th’ ann am Bòrd na Gàidhlig. Is e a’ phrìomh bhuidheann ann an Alba air a bheil dleastanas gus leasachadh Gàidhlig a chur air adhart agus gus comhairle a thoirt do Mhinistearan na h-Alba mu chùisean Gàidhlig.</p> <p>’S e amas a’ Phlana Cànan Nàiseanta Ghàidhlig 2018-23¹ gun tèid “a’ Ghàidhlig a chleachdadh nas trice, le barrachd dhaoine agus ann an raon nas fharsainge de shuidheachaidhean”. Bheirear seo gu buil le bhith a’ cuimseachadh air:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cur am meud cleachdadh na Gàidhlig. • Cur am meud ionnsachadh na Gàidhlig. • Cur air adhart deagh ìomhaigh den Ghàidhlig. <p>Bheirear an cleachdadh a bharrachd seo den chànan gu bhith, gu ìre, le bhith a’ toirt am buil nam buannachdan eacanomaigeach a bhios a’ Ghàidhlig a’ toirt do dh’Alba. Tachraidh sin tro bhith a’ cleachdadh na Gàidhlig barrachd mar sho-mhaoin eaconamach. ’S e ar n-amas gum faicear is gun cluinnear a’ Ghàidhlig gu làitheil air feadh na h-Alba, air dhòigh ’s gun tèid aithneachadh gu farsaing gu bheil i aig cridhe beatha na h-Alba agus na stòras nàiseanta.</p>	<p>Question 1: What current international activity do you undertake?</p> <p>Established under the Gaelic Language (Scotland) Act 2005, Bòrd na Gàidhlig is an executive non-departmental public body of the Scottish Government. It is the principal public body in Scotland responsible for promoting Gaelic development and providing advice to the Scottish Ministers on Gaelic issues.</p> <p>The aim of the National Gaelic Language Plan 2018-23⁵ is “that Gaelic is used more often, by more people and in a wider range of situations”. This will be achieved by focusing on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasing the use of Gaelic. • Increasing the learning of Gaelic. • Promoting a positive image of Gaelic. <p>This greater use of the language will, in part, be achieved through fully realising the social and economic benefits that Gaelic brings to Scotland. Our aim is that Gaelic is seen and heard on a daily basis across Scotland, such that it is widely recognised as an integral part of Scottish life and a national asset.</p>

¹ <https://www.gaidhlig.scot/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/BnG-NGLP-18-23.pdf>

⁵ <https://www.gaidhlig.scot/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/BnG-NGLP-18-23.pdf>

Thathar a’ bruidhinn Gàidhlig air feadh na h-Alba. Tha mu 50% de luchd-labhairt na Gàidhlig a’ fuireach sa Ghàidhealtachd agus sna h-Eileanan, agus càch air feadh na dùthcha. A rèir Cunntas-sluaigh 2011, bha sgilean Gàidhlig aig 87,100 daoine (mu 1.7% den àireamh-shluaigh), agus 57,600 dhiubh a b’ urrainn Gàidhlig a bhruidhinn. Tha iarrtas a’ sìor fhàs airson cànan is cultar na Gàidhlig le buannachdan foghlaim, eaconamach is sòisealta co-cheangailte riutha.

Tha Foghlam tro Mheadhan na Gàidhlig (FtMG) a’ leudachadh air feadh na h-Alba. Tha e a-nis ri fhaighinn ann an còrr is dàrna leth nan 32 ùghdarrasan ionadail ann an Alba. Thòisich Foghlam tro Mheadhan na Gàidhlig ann an 1985 le 14 sgoilearan sa bhun-sgoil. A-nis tha còrr is 5,600 sgoilear san roinn thar foghlaim Thràth-bhliadhnaichean, Bun-sgoile is Àrd-sgoile. Gus coinneachadh ri fàs leantainneach san iarrtas bidh feum air tasgadh ann an sgoiltean agus tidsearan.

Tha an t-iarrtas airson Gàidhlig ionnsachadh follaiseach san àrdachadh mhòr de dhaoine a tha a’ gabhail ris an app/làrach-lìn ionnsachadh cànan Duolingo. Tha mu 1.5 millean neach air tòiseachadh air Gàidhlig na h-Alba ionnsachadh air an app bho thòisich an cùrsa o chionn trì bliadhna. Tha a’ mhòr-chuid (71%) bho thaobh a-muigh na RA, le 36% anns na Stàitean Aonaichte a-mhàin.

Tha cur air bhog goireas craolaidh agus teagaisg air-loidhne SpeakGaelic san t-Sultain 2021 cuideachd air cur gu mòr ri goireasan do dh’inbich a tha airson a dhol an sàs sa Ghàidhlig agus an cànan ionnsachadh. Tha e air mu 400,000 neach-ionnsachaidh fhaighinn bho chaidh a chuir air bhog.

Fhuair “Suirbhidh Beachdan Sòisealta na h-Alba 2021: Beachdan Poball na h-Alba air a’ Ghàidhlig”, gu bheil, an coimeas ri 2012:

- A’ cho-chuid a tha ag ràdh gun urrainn dhaibh co-dhiù corra fhacal Gàidhlig a bhruidhinn air dùblachadh bho 15% gu 30%.

Gaelic is spoken across Scotland. Around 50% of Gaelic speakers live in the Highlands and Islands with the remainder in the rest of the country. At the 2011 Census 87,100 people in Scotland had Gaelic skills (around 1.7% of the population), of which 57,600 were Gaelic speakers. There is a growing demand for Gaelic language and culture with related educational, economic and social benefits.

Gaelic Medium Education is expanding across Scotland. It is now available in over half of Scotland’s 32 local authorities. Gaelic Medium Education began in 1985 with 14 primary pupils. There are now more than 5,600 pupils in the sector across Early Years, Primary and Secondary education. Meeting continuing growth in demand will require investment in schools and teachers.

The demand for learning Gaelic is evident in the huge uptake of the Duolingo language learning app/website. Some 1.5 million people have started learning Gaelic on the app since the course launched over three years ago. The majority (71%) are from outside the UK, with 36% in the United States alone.

The launch of SpeakGaelic in October 2021 has also greatly contributed to resources for adults who want to engage with and learn the language. It has seen around 400,000 learners since its launch.

The “Scottish Social Attitudes Survey 2021: Public Attitudes to Gaelic in Scotland”⁶ found that since 2012:

- The proportion who say they can speak at least the odd word of Gaelic has doubled from 15% to 30%.

⁶ <https://www.gaidhlig.scot/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/03.SSA-2021-Public-attitudes-to-Gaelic-in-Scotland-Main-report.pdf>



- Gu bheil a' cho-chuid a tha ag ràdh gun tuig iad co-dhiù beagan Gàidhlig air a dhol am meud bho 25% gu 41%.

A bharrachd air sin, tha 79% de dhaoine a' smaointinn gu bheil a' Ghàidhlig an dàrna cuid cudromach no glè chudromach do dhualchas cultarach na h-Alba.

Tha a' Ghàidhlig na prìomh phàirt de dh'fhèin-aithne chultarail na h-Alba, a' cur ri iomadachd na dùthcha Bidh mòran ealain Albannach thraidiseanta a' tarraing air cultar na Gàidhlig ged nach bi iad uile air an cur an cèill sa Ghàidhlig. Mar eisimpleir, ceòl is còmhlaing pìoba, dannsa Gàidhealach, Geamannan Gàidhealach agus cèilidhean.

Tha cultar na Gàidhlig a' gabhail a-steach riochdan a bha stèidhichte o chionn fhada – m.e. Dannsa Gàidhealach – ach tha e cuideachd ga riochdachadh ann an dòighean ùra tro fhilmichean agus na meadhanan sòisealta. Tha tachartasan cultarail Gàidhlig nam pàirt de thachartasan is fèisean nàiseanta: mar eisimpleir, chaidh 2022 ainmeachadh *Bliadhna Sgeulachdan na h-Alba*.

Tha Com-pàirtichean Libhrigidh Bhòrd na Gàidhlig a' faighinn còrr is £1.6 millean sa bhliadhna ann am maoinachadh. Bidh iad a' cur seo an sàs gus cleachdadh, ionnsachadh agus inbhe na Gàidhlig adhartachadh agus mar sin cuideachadh le libhrigeadh Plana Corporra BnG. Tha gnìomhachd eadar-nàiseanta na phàirt de seo.

Am measg gnìomhan eadar-nàiseanta nan Com-pàirtichean tha:

Acair: A' foillseachadh litreachas na Gàidhlig, a' toirt taic leasachaidh do ùghdaran agus eadar-theangairean agus a' brosnachadh litreachas na Gàidhlig aig tachartasan air feadh na h-Alba, agus a' reic leabhraichean thall thairis.

Ceòlas: Tha a' bhuidheann ag amas air ceòl, cànan, cultar agus dualchas traidiseanta a chomharrachadh, adhartachadh agus àrach. Bidh e ag adhartachadh eòlasan bogaidh Gàidhlig ann an Uibhist a Deas a' gabhail a-steach prògram ealain de thachartasan bliadhnail agus clasaichean Gàidhlig cunbhalach – cuid dhiubh le luchd-tadhail/com-pàirtichean eadar-nàiseanta. Tha obair Cheòlas a' gabhail a-steach co-obrachadh le

- The proportion who say they can understand at least a little Gaelic has increased from 25% to 41%.

Further, 79% of people think Gaelic is either very or fairly important to Scotland's cultural heritage.

Gaelic is a major part of Scots cultural ID, contributing to the country's diversity. Many traditional Scottish arts draw upon Gaelic culture although not all will be expressed in the Gaelic language. For example, pipe tunes and bands, Highland dancing, Highland Games and cèilidhs.

Gaelic culture includes long established forms - e.g. Highland dancing - but also modern expressions through films and social media. Gaelic cultural events form part of national events and festivals: for example, 2022 was designated *Scotland's Year of Stories*.

Bòrd na Gàidhlig's Delivery Partners receive over £1.6 million per annum in funding. They use this to help promote Gaelic usage, learning and status and thus help deliver BnG's Corporate Plan. International activity is part of this.

The Partners' international activities include:

Acair: Publishes Gaelic literature, provides development support to authors and translators and promotes Gaelic literature at events across Scotland, and sells books internationally.

Ceòlas: The organisation seeks to celebrate, promote and nurture traditional music, language, culture and heritage. It promotes Gaelic immersion experiences in South Uist including an artistic programme of annual events and regular Gaelic classes - some of which have international visitors/participants. Ceòlas's work includes collaborating with international



coimhearsnachdan eadar-nàiseanta – gu sònraichte ann an Ceap Breatainn ann an Canada – agus tha iad a’ leantainn orra a’ dol an sàs ann am pàirtean eile de shaoghal eilthreach nan Gàidheal thall thairis.

Is e **Comhairle nan Leabhraichean** a’ phrìomh bhuidheann le uallach airson taic a thoirt do sgrìobhadairean agus foillsichearan Gàidhlig na h-Alba agus a thogas ìomhaigh agus ruigsinneachd na Gàidhlig gu h-eadar-nàiseanta.

Bidh **An Comunn Gàidhealach** a’ ruith a’ Mhòid Nàiseanta Rìoghail bliadhnaile agus a’ toirt taic do Mhòdan ionadail air feadh na h-Alba. Tha seo a’ cur nan amasan aige air adhart a thaobh a bhith a’ cumail taic ri agus a’ leasachadh gach taobh de chànan, cultar, eachdraidh agus dualchas na Gàidhlig, a’ gabhail a-steach aig ìre eadar-nàiseanta. Tha mòran chom-pàirtichean eadar-nàiseanta aig a’ Mhòd Nàiseanta Rìoghail agus chaidh a’ chiad Mhòd ann an New York a chumail am-bliadhna aig Seachdain a’ Bhreacain 2023.

Tha **Fèisean nan Gàidheal** a’ cumail taic ri còrr is 45 Fèis ionadail air feadh na h-Alba a tha a’ toirt a-steach ceòl Gàidhlig agus teagasg ealain. Bidh e cuideachd a’ ruith na fèis ceòl traidiseanta bhliadhnaile Blas air feadh na Gàidhealtachd a bhios a’ gabhail a-steach luchd-ciùil eadar-nàiseanta agus bidh luchd-amais a’ frithealadh bho thaobh a-muigh na h-Alba.

Is e com-pàirteachas eadar Bòrd na Gàidhlig agus Foras na Gaeilge ann an Èirinn a th’ ann an **Colmcille**². Tha e ag amas air conaltradh agus co-obrachadh a bhrosnachadh eadar coimhearsnachdan cànan Gàidhlig na h-Alba agus na h-Èireann. Tha e a’ toirt cothrom do chom-pàirtichean eòlas fhaighinn air a chèile, an cànanan, an cultar is an dualchas, agus fiosrachadh a cho-roinn, agus san dòigh sin slàinte nan cànanan Gàidhlig a leasachadh. Mar eisimpleir, saPhròiseact Iomlaid Chultarail Sruth bha daoine òga a’ co-roinn an cuid cànan tro sgeulachdan, ceòl agus òrain ann an dà dheireadh-sheachdain

communities-notably Cape Breton in Canada - and they continue to engage with other parts of the Celtic diaspora.

Comhairle nan Leabhraichean is the lead organisation with responsibility for supporting Scottish Gaelic writers and publishers and raises the profile and reach of Scottish Gaelic internationally.

An Comunn Gàidhealach run the annual Royal National Mòd and support local Mòds across Scotland. This furthers its aims of supporting and developing all aspects of the Gaelic language, culture, history and heritage including at international level. There are many international participants in the Royal National Mòd and the first Mòd in New York took place this year during Tartan Week 2023.

Fèisean nan Gàidheal supports the running of over 45 local Fèisean across Scotland which incorporate Gaelic music and arts tuition. It also runs the annual Blas traditional music festival across the Highlands which includes international performers and audiences attending from outwith Scotland.

Colmcille is a partnership between Bòrd na Gàidhlig and Foras na Gaeilge in Ireland⁷. It aims to foster communication and collaboration between the language communities of Scottish and Irish Gaelic. It allows participants to get to know each other, their languages, culture and heritage and to share information, thus furthering the health and well-being of the Gaelic languages. As an example, the Sruth Cultural Exchange Project involved young people sharing language through stories, music and song in two

² Tha àite aig Foras na Gaeilge ann a bhith a’ comhairleachadh riaghaltasan, Tuath is Deas, cho math ri buidhnean poblach agus buidhnean eile anns na roinnean prìobhaideach is saor-thoileach anns gach cùis co-cheangailte ris a’ Ghaeilge

⁷ Foras na Gaeilge has a role in advising administrations, North and South, as well as public bodies and other groups in the private and voluntary sectors in all matters relating to the Irish language



<p>còmhnaidh aghaidh ri aghaidh agus bùth-obrach air-loidhne.</p> <p>Bidh Colmcille cuideachd a' maoinachadh oileanaich Ghàidhlig Alba Nuaidh airson greis ionnsachaidh a dhèanamh aig Sabhal Mòr Ostaig (a' cholaiste Ghàidhlig chliùiteach san Eilean Sgitheanach).</p> <p>Tha Bòrd na Gàidhlig cuideachd a' ruith sgeama Thabhartasan Coimhearsnachd - <i>Taic Freumhan Coimhearsnachd</i>. Bidh seo a' toirt taic do bhuidhnean airson pròiseactan a libhrigeadh gus cleachdadh agus ionnsachadh na Gàidhlig a bhrosnachadh agus a chur am meud aig ìre coimhearsnachd. Faodaidh seo a bhith a' gabhail a-steach adhartachadh na Gàidhlig mar phàirt de thachartasan is cuirmean eadar-nàiseanta.</p> <p>Ann an 2023 thachair an dàrna Seachdain na Gàidhlig bhliadhna - <i>A' comharrachadh na Gàidhlig air feadh an t-saoghail</i>. Ghabh seo a-steach tachartasan taobh a-muigh na RA agus sgeama maoinachaidh gus a' Ghàidhlig adhartachadh ann an Alba agus air feadh an t-saoghail.</p> <p>Am measg nam pròiseactan eadar-nàiseanta eile a tha air maoinachadh fhaighinn bho Bhòrd na Gàidhlig tha:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ceangal 2022 (Urras Coimhearsnachd Bhràdhagair agus Arnoil, Eilean Leòdhais). B' e an t-amas a dhol an sàs le buidhnean coimhearsnachd, iomairtean sòisealta agus buidhnean saor-thoileach ann an agus timcheall air Rubha an Daingean ann an Èirinn gus fios, cleachdaidhean agus eòlasan ionnsachadh agus a cho-roinn. • Còisirean Eurovision – a' cumail taic ri cosgaisean airson na còisir Ghàidhlig "Alba" a bhith an làthair aig farpais nan Còisirean Eurovision san t-Suain. • Turas do dh'Èirinn - airson sgoilearan ann am foghlam tro mheadhan na Gàidhlig aig ìre àrd-sgoile. • A' toirt taic do thaisbeanadh luchd-ealain Ghàidhlig aig fèis Lorient san Fhraing. 	<p>face to face residential weekends and an online workshop.</p> <p>Colmcille also funds Gaelic students in Nova Scotia to undertake a period of study at Sabhal Mòr Ostaig (the renowned Gaelic college on the Isle of Skye).</p> <p>Bòrd na Gàidhlig also operate a Community Grants scheme - <i>Taic Freumhan Coimhearsnachd</i>. This supports organisations to deliver projects to promote and increase the usage and learning of Gaelic at community level. That can include promoting Gaelic as part of international events and celebrations.</p> <p>2023 has seen the second annual Seachdain na Gàidhlig (World Gaelic Week) - <i>Celebrating Scottish Gaelic across the globe</i>. This included events outside the UK and a funding scheme to promote Gaelic in Scotland and across the world.</p> <p>Other international projects that have received Bòrd na Gàidhlig funding include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ceangal 2022 (Bragar and Arnol Community Trust, Isle of Lewis). The aim was to engage with community groups, social enterprises and voluntary organisations in and around the Dingle Peninsula in Ireland to learn and share knowledge, customs and experiences. • Còisirean Eurovision - supporting costs for the Gaelic choir "Alba" to attend the Eurovision Choirs competition in Sweden. • Turas do dh' Èirinn - a trip to Ireland for pupils in Gaelic-medium education at secondary school level. • Supporting a showcase for Gaelic artists at the Lorient festival in France.
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- Guth nan Gàidheal - turas iomlaid airson luchd-ealain òga à Alba agus Èirinn gus iad fhèin a bhogadh ann an cànan a chèile.
- *New speakers moving dialogues*: a' toirt sgoilearan àrd-sgoile ann an Èirinn agus Alba còmhla gus bruidhinn nan cànanan agus eòlas a cho-roinn.

A thuilleadh air na gnìomhan gu h-àrd tha mìltean de dhaoine air feadh an t-saoghail ag ionnsachadh na Gàidhlig air-loidhne agus air an tarraing gu cultar na Gàidhlig tro cheòl, telebhisean, film agus eachdraidh.

Ceist 2: Dè a' bhuaidh a tha aig gnìomhachd chultarach air a' ghnìomhachas/buidheann agad?

Ceist 3: Dè a tha gur brosnachadh a bhith ag obair gu h-eadar-nàiseanta?

Gus a' Ghàidhlig adhartachadh mar phàirt chudromach de dhualchas, cultar agus dòigh-beatha na h-Alba agus làthaireachd eadar-nàiseanta na Gàidhlig a chur am meud.

Gus an comas a th' aig a' Ghàidhlig a thoirt gu buil mar sho-mhaoin eaconamach a' toirt cosnadh agus teachd a-steach do dhaoine fa leth a tha ag obair tro mheadhan na Gàidhlig. Tha turasachd chultarail a-steach don dùthaich an lùib sin. Tha comas susbainteach na Gàidhlig ann an turasachd air aithneachadh ann an Ro-innleachd Turasachd Ghàidhlig VisitAlba. 'S e Misean bunaiteach na ro-innleachd a bhith "A' cumail taic ri fàs eaconamaidh turasachd na h-Alba tro bhith a' toirt cothrom do bharrachd luchd-tadhail faighinn a-mach mu dheidhinn agus faighinn eòlas air a' Ghàidhlig agus a cultar.". Tha a' Ghàidhlig ga meas mar "Fheart gun Samhail agus na pàirt fhìor-bheatha den eòlas air tadhal air Alba".

Sheall rannsachadh VisitAlba gun robh, bho 2018 gu 2021, àrdachadh de 72% anns an àireimh de luchd-cleachdaidh VisitScotland.com a thadhail air susbaint co-cheangailte ris a' Ghàidhlig.

- Guth nan Gàidheal - an exchange trip for young artists from Scotland and Ireland to immerse themselves in each other's languages.
- *New speakers moving dialogues*: bringing secondary school pupils in Ireland and Scotland together to speak in their languages and share knowledge.

In addition to the above activities there are thousands of people around the world learning Gaelic online and drawn to Gaelic culture through music, television, film and history.

Question 2: What impact does cultural activity have on your business/organisation?

Question 3: What are your motivations for working internationally?

To promote Gaelic as a significant part of Scotland's heritage, culture and way of life and increase an international presence for Gaelic.

To realise the potential Gaelic as an economic asset providing employment and income for individuals working in the Gaelic medium. That includes inbound cultural tourism. The significant potential of Gaelic within tourism is recognised in VisitScotland's Gaelic Tourism Strategy. Its underlying Mission is "To support the growth of the Scottish tourism economy through engaging more visitors in discovering and experiencing the unique Gaelic language and its associated culture.". Gaelic is viewed as a "Unique Selling Point differentiator and authentic part of the experience of visiting Scotland".

VisitScotland research showed that, from 2018 to 2021, there was a 72% increase in the number of VisitScotland.com users visiting Gaelic-related content.



Gus togail air na ceanglaichean a th' ann mar-thà eadar Alba is Èirinn, agus Alba agus Alba Nuadh Tha iad sin a' nochdadh na tha sa chumantas eatarra anns na h-ealain, cultar, dualchas agus na meadhanan. A thuilleadh air sin, faodaidh gach àite ionnsachadh bho na h-àiteachan eile ann an raointean leithid planadh cànan agus àite cànan is cultar ann an leasachadh eaconamach – a' gabhail a-steach co-obrachadh.

Cuidichidh gach nì gu h-àrd gus amas a' Phlana Cànan Nàiseanta Gàidhlig làithreach a choileanadh. Sin, “gun tèid Gàidhlig a chleachdadh nas trice le barrachd dhaoine agus ann am barrachd shuidheachaidhean”.

Ceist 4: Dè, ma tha gin idir, na prìomh bhacaidhean mu choinneimh leasachadh bhur gnìomhachd eadar-nàiseanta?

Ceist 5: Dè bhur beachd air an fheallsanachd a tha ga mhìneachadh airson Ro-innleachd Cultair Eadar-nàiseanta?

Tha an abairt “tha sinn gu sònraichte ag amas air builean cultarail is eaconamach a choileanadh” gu ìre mhòr a' freagairt air adhbhar Bhòrd na Gàidhlig a bhith ag obair gu h-eadar-nàiseanta mar a tha air a mhìneachadh nar freagairt do C3. Gu sònraichte airson:

- Gàidhlig a chur air adhart mar phàirt chudromach de dhualchas, cultar agus dòigh-beatha na h-Alba.
- Comas na Gàidhlig mar sho-mhaoin eaconamach a thoirt gu buil.

Ceist 6: Dè bhur beachd air an lèirsinn a tha ga mhìneachadh gu h-àrd?

Tha sinn riarachta leis an lèirsinn a tha air a mhìneachadh.

Ceist 7: Tha sinn air 4 cuspairean a chomharrachadh (ceanglaichean cultarail, buaidh eaconamach, dioplòmasachd agus cliù). Ciamar a tha an obair agaibh a' ceangal ris gach raon seo?

Tha obair Bhòrd na Gàidhlig gus taic a thoirt do chultar na Gàidhlig a' ceangal ri *ceanglaichean cultarail*. An toiseach,

To build upon the existing links between Scotland and Ireland, and Scotland and Nova Scotia. These reflect commonalities in arts, culture, heritage and media. Further, each geography can learn from the other in areas like language planning and the role of language and culture in economic development - including through collaborative working.

All of the above will all help to achieve the aim of the current National Gaelic Language Plan. That is, “Gaelic is used more often, by more people and in a wider range of situations”.

Question 4: What, if any, are the main barriers to developing your international activity?

Question 5: What are your views on the rationale set out for an International Culture Strategy?

The phrase “we primarily seek to achieve cultural and economic outcomes” largely fits with Bòrd na Gàidhlig’s motivations for working internationally as set out in our response to Q3. In particular to:

- Promote Gaelic as a significant part of Scotland’s heritage, culture and way of life.
- Realise the potential Gaelic as an economic asset.

Question 6: What are your views on the vision outlined above?

We are content with vision that is set out.

Question 7: We have identified 4 themes (cultural connections, economic impact, diplomacy and reputation). How does your work connect with each of these areas?

Bòrd na Gàidhlig’s work to support Gaelic culture connects with *cultural connections*. First, through



tron cho-obrachadh agus iomlaid a tha an lùib pròiseact Cholmcille agus ceanglaichean eadar-nàiseanta eile le taic bhon sgeama maoineachadh coimhearsnachd againn.

San dara àite, tha a' Ghàidhlig na prìomh phàirt den sho-mhaoin chultarail làidir a tha a' tàladh an t-saoghail a dh'Alba. Bidh mòran ealain Albannach thraidiseanta a' tarraing air cultar na Gàidhlig - ged nach bi iad uile air an cur an cèill sa Ghàidhlig. Mar eisimpleir, ceòl is còmhlain pìoba, dannsa Gàidhealach, Geamannan Gàidhealach agus cèilidhean. Mar a chaidh a mhìneachadh na bu tràithe nar freagairt tha Bòrd na Gàidhlig a' toirt taic do raon de phròiseactan agus gnìomhan cultarail.

Tha an taic a tha Bòrd na Gàidhlig a' toirt do chultar is buidhnean na Gàidhlig cuideachd a' ceangal ri *buidhnean eaconamach*. Tha e air cothrom a thoirt do luchd-ealain reic eadar-nàiseanta a dhèanamh, na taisbeanaidhean aca a shealltainn air feadh an t-saoghail gu didseatach agus cluich beò ann an dùthchannan taobh a-muigh na RA. Rinn an aithisg, *Ar Stòras Gàidhlig*³ measadh air an luach eaconamach is sòisealta a tha a' Ghàidhlig a' toirt do dh'Alba. Fhuair e gu bheil gnòthaichean ann an grunn roinnean - na gnìomhachasan cruthachail nam measg - a' faighinn buannachd bho bhith a' cleachdadh na Gàidhlig, agus gu bheil comas aig seo luach eaconamach susbainteach a thoirt a-steach. Tha cultar na Gàidhlig cuideachd a' cur ri turasachd na h-Alba mar a chaidh a mhìneachadh aig C3.

Ceist 8: A bheil taobhan den obair agaibh nach biodh a' tighinn an lùib nan cuspairean seo, ach a tha sibh a' faireachdainn a bu chòir don ro-innleachd aithneachadh?

Ceist 9: An d' fhuair sibh taic bhon roinn phoblaich ann an Alba airson bhur gnìomhachd eadar-nàiseanta agus ma fhuair, cò às a thàinig e?

Ceist 10: Dè a' bhuidhne a bh' aig an taic seo air an obair agaibh?

the collaboration and exchange involved in the Colmcille project and other international connections supported by our community funding scheme.

Second, Gaelic is a key part of the strong cultural assets that brings the world to Scotland. Many traditional Scottish arts draw upon Gaelic culture - although not all will be expressed in the Gaelic language. For example, pipe tunes and bands, Highland dancing, Highland Games and cèilidhs. As described earlier in our response Bòrd na Gàidhlig supports a range of cultural projects and activities.

Bòrd na Gàidhlig's support to Gaelic culture and organisations also connects with *economic impact*. It has enabled artists to make international sales, screen their performances around the world digitally and perform live in countries outside the UK. The report, *Ar Stòras Gàidhlig*⁸ assessed the economic and social value Gaelic brings to Scotland. It found that businesses in a range of sectors - including creative industries - benefit from their use of Gaelic, and that this has the potential to bring significant economic value. Gaelic culture also contributes to Scottish tourism as described at Q3.

Question 8: Are there aspects of your work that would not be captured by these themes, but you feel the strategy should recognise?

Question 9: Have you accessed Scottish public sector support for your international activity and if so which sources?

Question 10: What has been the impact of this support on your work?

³ <https://www.hie.co.uk/media/5585/hieplusreportplus2014plusfinalplusonline.pdf>

⁸ <https://www.hie.co.uk/media/5585/hieplusreportplus2014plusfinalplusonline.pdf>



Ceist 11: An d' fhuair sibh taic sam bith eile airson bhur gnìomhachd eadar-nàiseanta agus ma fhuair, cò às a thàinig e?

Ceist 12: A bheil taic làithreach airson gnìomhachd chultarail eadar-nàiseanta iomchaidh? A bheil beàrnan san t-solar a thaobh fòcas?

Ceist 13: A bheil sibh mothachail air cleachdadh sam bith thall thairis a dh'fhaodadh a bhith na dheagh eisimpleir do Alba a thaobh taic do gnìomhachd chultarail eadar-nàiseanta?

Tha sinn mothachail gu bheil Èirinn gu math gnìomhach ann a bhith a' lìbhrigeadh chùrsaichean Gaeilge agus tachartasan cultarail Gaeilge do oileanaich eadar-nàiseanta a tha a' frithealadh Institiudan Foghlam Àrd-ìre san dùthaich. Bidh Riaghaltas na h-Èireann cuideachd a' toirt thabhartasan do shaoranaich nan Stàitean Aonaichte a tha ag ionnsachadh na Gaeilge no a tha nan tidsearan anns na SA gus 2-6 seachdainean a chur seachad ag ionnsachadh na Gaeilge sna sgìrean Gaeltachta. Air an t-slighe eile, *bidh* duaisean Neach-taic Teagaisg Cànan Cèin Fulbright gan toirt do mhuinntir na h-Èireann airson Gaeilge a theagasg sna SA.

Tha Roinn a' Chultair, an Dualchais agus na Gaeltachta a' toirt seachad maoinachadh airson Gaeilge a theagasg ann an còrr is ceathrad oilthigh san Roinn Eòrpa agus Ameireagaidh a Tuath. Thathas ag aithris gu bheil còrr is 2000 oileanach an lùib na h-ìomairt. Ann am pàirt, tha seo ag amas air dòigh a lìbhrigeadh gus am faigh daoine cothrom air a' Ghaeilge agus gun tèid a taisbeanadh mar chànan eadar-nàiseanta.

Tha seo a' comharrachadh cothrom airson barrachd cànan is cultar na Gàidhlig a bhith air an teagasg gu h-eadar-nàiseanta, a' gabhail a-steach ionadan far a bheilear a' teagasg eòlas Ceilteach.

Ceist 14: Dè na dòighean anns am faod gnìomhachd eadar-nàiseanta cuideachadh gus na dùbhlain a th' ann an-dràsta a lasachadh? (m.e. Brexit, galar lèir-sgaoilte, èiginn cosgais bith-beò)

Question 11: Have you accessed any other forms of support for your international activity and if so which sources?

Question 12: Is current support for international cultural activity appropriate? Are there gaps in provision in terms of focus?

Question 13: Are you aware of international examples that Scotland might learn from in its support for international cultural activity?

We are aware that Ireland is quite active in providing Irish language courses and Irish language cultural events for international students attending Higher Education Institutes in the country. The Irish Government also provide grants to US citizens who are Irish Language learners or teachers in the US to spend 2-6 weeks studying the Irish language in the Gaeltacht regions. In the other direction, *Fulbright* Foreign Language Teaching Assistantship awards are provided to Irish residents to teach the Irish language in the US.

The Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht provides funding for teaching Irish in over forty foreign universities in Europe and North America. The number of students has been reported as over 2,000. In part, this aims to provide a platform on which the Irish language can be accessed and showcased as an international language.

This points to an opportunity for more Gaelic language and culture to be taught internationally, including in institutions where Celtic studies are taught.

Question 14: In what ways can international activity help to mitigate current challenges? (e.g Brexit, pandemic, cost crisis)



Rè a' ghalair lèir-sgaoilte, mheudaich mòran bhuidhnean Gàidhlig an làthaireachd air-loidhne gu mòr, a' gabhail a-steach cuirmean is co-labhairtean. Thug seo barrachd ruigsinneachd do mhòran dhaoine – gu sònraichte luchd-amais eadar-nàiseanta.

Tha buidhnean cultarail Gàidhlig a' faicinn luach ann a bhith a' cumail co-dhiù cuid de na gnìomhachdan air-loidhne a leasaich iad ri linn a' ghalair lèir-sgaoilte. Tha iad air buannachd fhaighinn bhon oidhirp a chuir iad an sàs ann an seo agus an uiread a dh'ionnsaich iad mar thoradh air sin.

Gu sònraichte, thathas ag iarraidh cumail a' sealltainn cuid de chuirmean is thachartasan air-loidhne. Ach, tha bacaidhean cosgais agus dìth comas luchd-obrach aig cuid de bhuidhnean. Faodaidh cosgais mhòr a bhith ann a' toirt a-steach luchd-obrach neo-cheangailte gus gnìomhan sònraichte a dhèanamh, no gus càileachd na h-obrach aca a leasachadh.

San dara àite, tha cuid a' fulang chnapan-starra a thaobh eòlas. Mar eisimpleir:

- A' tuigsinn dùilean luchd-amais – m.e. càileachd no cruth craolaidh.
- An dòigh as fheàrr air susbaint a thoirt do luchd-amais. Am bu chòir a bhith ann an criomagan a mhàin, no bhidio slàn le fo-thiotalan, no tasglann – agus mura h-eil e na thaisbeanadh beò, dè cho luath às dèidh an tachartais a bu chòir an t-susbaint a libhrigeadh?

San treas àite, dh'fhaodadh gum bi feum air comhairle mu na dòighean as fheàrr air airgead a dhèanamh bho shusbaint air-loidhne.

Ceist 15: A bheil fàgail an Aonaidh Eòrpaich air dùbhlain shònraichte adhbharachadh don gnìomhachd eadar-nàiseanta agaibh?

Ceist 16: Ma tha, dè na dòighean anns am faodadh an ro-innleachd seo dèiligeadh ris na dùbhlain sin?

During the pandemic, many Gaelic organisations increased their online presence significantly, including performances and conferences. This provided greater access for many people - particularly international audiences.

Gaelic cultural organisations see value in retaining at least some of the online activities they developed during the pandemic. They have benefited from the effort they put into this and the significant amount they learned as a result.

In particular, there is a desire to continue to show some performances and events online. However, some organisations face cost and staff capacity barriers. There can be a very significant cost of bringing in freelance staff to undertake certain specialist tasks, or to improve the overall quality of the product.

Second, some face knowledge barriers. For example:

- Understanding audience expectations - e.g. broadcast quality or format.
- The best approach to providing the content to audiences. Should it be simply clips, or full video with subtitles, or archive - and if not a live screening then how soon after the event should the content be made available?

Third, advice may be required on the best ways to monetise the online content.

Question 15: Are there particular challenges that leaving the EU has caused to your international activity?

Question 16: If so, in what ways might this strategy seek to address those challenges?



Ceist 17: A bheil dòighean ùra ann air a bheil sibh air tòiseachadh a' dol an sàs gu h-eadar-nàiseanta no dòighean anns a bheil sibh airson sin a dhèanamh?

Ceist 18: Ciamar a bu chòir don ro-innleachd seo beachdachadh air a' bhuidheann a bhios aig gnìomhachd eadar-nàiseanta air atharrachadh gnàth-thìde?

Ceist 19: Ciamar a bu chòir don an ro-innleachd seo toirt air adhart a' mhiann a bhith a' làimhseachadh ana-ceartas eachdraidheil gu cunntasach?

Ceist 20: A bheil àiteachan sònraichte ann a tha nas cudromaiche dhuibh fhèin, don bhuidheann agaibh no don roinn nas fharsainghe na feadhainn eile? Ma tha, carson a tha iad gu sònraichte cudromach?

• Tha, tha àiteachan sònraichte a tha nas cudromaiche don bhuidhinn againn.

Is iad sin Èirinn, Èirinn a Tuath agus Canada (Alba Nuadh). Tha seo a' nochdadh ceanglaichean eachdraidheil, cultarail agus cànanach na h-Alba leis na dùthchannan sin. Tha Sasainn, a' Ghearmailt, Stàitean Aonaichte Ameireagaidh, Astràilia agus Sealainn Nuadh am measg nan sgìrean eile anns a bheil àireamh mhòr de luchd-labhairt/luchd-ionnsachaidh na Gàidhlig.

Ceist 21: Am bu chòir do Ro-innleachd Cultair Eadar-nàiseanta prìomhachas a thoirt do àiteachan sònraichte?

Dh'fheumadh seo mòran smaoinichaidh, a' gabhail a-steach na slatan-tomhais airson taghadh sgìrean le prìomhachas.

Ach, tha sinn mothachail gu bheil Ro-innleachd Eadar-nàiseanta Riaghaltas na Cuimrigh⁴ a' comharrachadh *Dàimhean Roinneil* sònraichte a thuilleadh air *Dàimhean le Dùthchannan* sònraichte. Ann a bhith a' dèanamh seo tha cuid de na roinnean – gu ìre co-dhiù – air an taghadh

Question 17: Are there new ways that you have begun to engage internationally or ways in which you wish to do so?

Question 18: What are your views on how this strategy should consider the impact of international activities on climate change?

Question 19: How would you like this strategy to further the aspiration of handling historic injustices responsibly?

Question 20: Are there particular geographies that are of greater importance to you, your organisation, or the wider sector, than others? If so, why are they of particular importance?

• Yes, there are particular geographies of greater importance to my organisation.

These are Ireland, Northern Ireland and Canada (Nova Scotia). This reflects Scotland's historical, cultural and linguistic links with these countries. Other geographies which have considerable numbers of Gaelic speakers/learners include England, Germany, USA, Australia and New Zealand.

Question 21: Do you think an International Culture Strategy should prioritise particular geographies?

This would require considerable thought, including the criteria for selecting priority geographies.

However, we note that the Welsh Government's International Strategy⁹ identifies specific *Regional Relationships* in addition to specific *Country Relationships*. In so doing some of the selected regions are included - at least in part -

⁴ <https://www.gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2020-10/international-strategy-for-wales-v1.pdf>

⁹ <https://www.gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2020-10/international-strategy-for-wales-v1.pdf>



air sgàth ceanglaichean cultair is cànan. Gu sònraichte, tha an Ro-innleachd a' toirt iomradh air:

Dùthaich nam Basgach: "cothroman ... soilleir cultarail don Chuimrigh bho cho-obrachadh agus gu bheil "tòrr aig an roinn ri thabhann a thaobh an eòlais aca ann am planadh cànan".

A' Bhreatainn Bheag: "Tha an dàimh freumhaichte nar dualchas cultarail is cànanach co-roinnte agus tha pàirt chudromach aig cultar is cànan mar a chithear le ar dealas do Fhèis Lorient, an com-pàirteachas eadar ar dà orcastra, ar luchd-ealain agus buidhnean brosnachaidh ealain".

Bu chòir aire a thoirt do cheanglaichean cultarail is cànanach mar seo nuair a thathar a' beachdachadh air Alba a' toirt prìomhachas do sgìrean sònraichte. Seall freagairt 20.

Ceist 22: A bheil taobhan de dhol an sàs ann an gnìomhachd cultarail eadar-nàiseanta a bheir buaidh eadar-dhealaichte air buidhnean co-ionannachd? (nur freagairt smaoinichibh air an dà chuid buaidhean math is dona)

Ceist 23: Ma chomharraich sibh droch bhuaidhean, ciamar a ghabhadh an seachnadh san àm ri teachd?

Ceist 24: A bheil beachd sam bith eile a bu toil leibh a thoirt seachad air an ro-innleachd san fharsaingeachd?

Bhiodh sinn an dùil iomradh fhaicinn air àite agus tabhartas na Gàidhlig agus a cultar mar sho-mhaoin shònraichte ann an tabhartas cultarail eadar-nàiseanta na h-Alba. Leanaidh Bòrd na Gàidhlig ag obair gu dlùth le com-pàirtichean eile gus dèanamh cinnteach gu bheil cànan is cultar na Gàidhlig fillte gu h-iomlan san ro-innleachd gus dèanamh cinnteach gun tèid a comas a thoirt gu buil.

based on cultural and linguistic linkages. Specifically, the Strategy refers to:

Basque Country: "clear...cultural opportunities for Wales from joint co-operation and that "the region has a lot to offer in terms of its experience in language planning".

Brittany: "the relationship is rooted in our shared cultural and linguistic heritage and culture and language play an important part as demonstrated by our commitment to the Lorient Festival, the partnership between our orchestras, artists and arts promotion agencies".

Such cultural and linguistic linkages should be taken into account in any consideration of Scotland prioritising particular geographies. See answer 20.

Question 22: Are there aspects of engaging in international cultural activity that affect equalities groups differently? (in your response please reflect on both positive and negative effects)

Question 23: If you identified any negative effects, what do you think could be done in the future to try and prevent this from happening?

Question 24: Are there any other comments you would like to make on the strategy as a whole at this time?

We would have expected some reference(s) to the role and contribution of Gaelic language and culture as a distinctive asset within Scotland's international culture offering. Bòrd na Gàidhlig will continue to work closely with other partners to ensure that Gaelic language and culture is fully integrated into the strategy to help ensure that its potential is realised.

