German-Arab Transformation Partnership, Programme Line 4

German-Arab research partnerships with partner higher education institutions in Tunisia, Iraq, Jordan, Yemen, Lebanon, Libya and Morocco

for new applications 2019 – 2020 and concluding measures in 2019

The German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) supports the German-Arab Transformation Partnership programme using funding from the Federal Foreign Office (AA). Germany has been monitoring the political unrest in the Arab region since 2011 within the scope of this programme. Higher education and academic cooperation play an important role in times of social and political change. The German-Arab Transformation Partnership creates additional opportunities to support the reform efforts of Arab higher education institutions in cooperation with German partner higher education institutions.

The research focus when developing and realising a specific high-quality joint research project between the target countries and Germany should be in the partner country and achieve the following objectives.

Qualitative objectives:

- Structure formation, particularly through the further training and specialisation of young academics
- Modernisation of research (structure and methods) and teaching
- Increase in academic performance
- Consideration and improvement of the employability of graduates in the corresponding departments
- Intensification of networking between higher education institutions (in the partner countries)

Quantitative objectives:

- For individuals: the number of qualifications (master’s, doctorates, etc.), quantification of a funding aim for a specific group (e.g. percentage of female participants) or specification of the number of months in a stay (guest lecturers, study/research stays)
- For events: the number and description of planned events, quantification of intended participant numbers
- For material resources: an indication of planned purchases (e.g. lab and library equipment, etc.) and/or a description of specific knowledge to be attained or a concrete aim

The programme serves to support outstanding Arab alumni (generally DAAD alumni) from the target countries listed above when they start on the post-doctoral research phase in their home country after completing their doctorate. The alumnus/alumna forms and coordinates a research group with local academics and involves individuals of all qualification levels. The results of the research group will be continually communicated through publications and presentations. The presentation of (interim) results and participation in international meetings and/or conferences is not only open to alumni but also to doctoral students and research associates involved in the research group.
New applications

- Participation in and/or organisation of subject-related academic events (meetings, seminars, workshops preferably in one of the cooperation countries, summer schools, conferences)
- Organisation of short teaching or research visits (max. three months)
- Exchange of graduate and doctoral student groups for participation in joint specialist events, experiment series and other academic-based joint projects and measures
- Purchase of equipment and library resources for the partner institute in the Arab target countries

Concluding measures for research partnerships funded since 2016 and ending on 31/12/2018.

- Participation in and/or organisation of subject-related academic events (meetings, seminars, workshops preferably in one of the cooperation countries, summer schools, conferences, etc.
- Organisation of short concluding teaching or research visits) to consolidate project successes

Note:
The following measures are not eligible for funding:

- Measures aimed exclusively at a research cooperation.
- Representational trips without relevance to the particular subject
- Scholarships exclusively serving individual advancement and not awarded as part of a partnership project

Grant expenditure eligible

All expenditure necessary and appropriate for implementing the project (implementation of the measures) is eligible for funding. These include in particular:

Personnel resources for conducting and supervising the project

- Personnel in Germany
  - Research associates
  - Academic assistants
  - Student assistants
  - Other employees

- Personnel outside Germany
  - Research associates
    (as a local employee: monthly salary supplement of up to €1,000)
  - Academic assistants
    (as a local employee: monthly salary supplement of up to €400)
  - Student assistants
    (as a local employee: monthly salary supplement of up to €200)
  - Other employees

If possible, Germany alumni or DAAD alumni should be used to manage or coordinate the research partnership and to support the project (external funding management and project administration).

Material resources

- Fees (e.g. for lecturing activities by external professionals in Germany and the target region)
- Mobility of project staff (mobility of employees of German higher education institutions in accordance with the German Federal Travel Expenses Act (BRKG) e.g. for work meetings, project presentations, participation in conferences)
- Project staff visits (accommodation and daily allowance for employees of German higher education institutions in accordance with the German
Federal Travel Expenses Act (BRKG) for individual teaching or research stays of the international project participants in Germany and/or the participating German project managers in the partner country, max. three months)

- Material resources in Germany/abroad
  - Consumer goods for partner higher education institutions in the target countries (e.g. toner, ink, transparencies, CDs)
  - Economic goods (e.g. equipment, library resources incl. transport for the partner institute in the Arab target countries)
  - Printing/publications/advertising and public relations (for planning, implementing and following up on subject-related academic events)
  - Other items (planning, implementing and following up on events, e.g. telephone costs, printing and copying costs, consumables, books and, if necessary, required equipment; no tips, decorations, use of mainframe computers, gifts for hosts, inventory for German higher education institutions, maintenance and repair costs of project-specific equipment at the Arab partner institute)

**Funded individuals**

- Mobility expenses for funded individuals
  - Mobility of the employees of international higher education institutions and third persons (students, graduates and doctoral candidates)
    - Between the respective target countries and Germany in accordance with country-specific travel allowances (see appendix on travel allowances)
    - Mobility within the target region (also outside the target region in justified exceptional cases, e.g. for joint field research or in South-South exchange) and within Germany based on individual receipts in accordance with the principles of economic efficiency and frugality; 2nd class train journeys, economy-class flights
  - Mobility of employees of German higher education institutions who are not employees of the grant recipient, in accordance with the German Federal Travel Expenses Act (BRKG) (2nd class train journeys, economy-class flights)

- Living expenses for funded individuals
  - Students, graduates, doctoral candidates, academics holding a PhD (see funding rates in the appendix “Funding requirements”)
  - Employees of international higher education institutions (see funding rates in the appendix “Funding requirements”)
  - Employees of German higher education institutions in accordance with the German Federal Travel Expenses Act (BRKG)

Funding will be provided as full financing.

**Type of financing**

New applications: The funding period begins on 01/03/2019 at the earliest and ends on 31/12/2020 at the latest.

Concluding measures: The funding period begins on 01/03/2019 at the earliest and ends on 31/12/2019 at the latest.

**Funding level**

New applications: The maximum amount available for the DAAD grant is €90,000 per budget year.

Concluding measures: The maximum amount available for the DAAD grant is €40,000 per budget year.
Subject area(s)

Applications are particularly welcome from the humanities and social sciences.

However, the programme is available to **all subject areas**.

Target group

University teachers, higher education employees, graduates, doctoral candidates and students from Germany and the Arab partner countries.

Eligible applicants

**New applications:**
State or state-approved German higher education institutions or German research institutes

**Concluding measures:**
State or state-approved German higher education institutions or German research institutes that have been funded since 2016 and end on 31/12/2018.

As a rule, the Arab project manager **must be a DAAD alumnus/a** who has spent **at least six months of their doctoral phase in Germany**. They should generally have completed their doctorate within the past five years.

Submission of applications

The application for project funding must be **completed in full and submitted by the stipulated deadline** exclusively via the DAAD portal (https://portal.daad.de).

Application requirements

**Application documents relevant for selection:**

- **Project application** (in DAAD portal)
- **Financing plan** (in DAAD portal)
- **Project description** (see Appendix 3 for template) (appendix type: project description) signed by the German **and** Arab project managers, in German or English
- **Project description (short version)** (see Appendix 4 for template) (appendix type: project description)
- **Tabular project planning overview** with aims, measures, time frame and participants (appendix type: programme-specific appendices)
- **Overview of estimated expenditure** for consumables (appendix type: additional financial information)
- **Endorsement** of the project application by the German university administration (see Appendix 5 for template) (appendix type: programme-specific appendices)
- Signed **agreement from the management of the international partner institution(s)** (Memorandum of Understanding or Letter of Intent) (appendix type: contracts/agreements)
- **Scholarship certificate** of the alumnus/alumna (international project manager) (appendix type: programme-specific appendices)
- **Curriculum vitae and lists of publications** of the Arab project managers, further references on academic qualifications, if available (appendix type: programme-specific appendices)
- **Where appropriate, curriculum vitae and lists of publications** of other academic project participants on the partner side (from master’s level) (appendix type: programme-specific appendices)
- **Where appropriate, a brief description** of the partnership to date, if available (appendix type: programme-specific appendices)
If cooperation documents relevant for selection (e.g. cooperation agreement (Memorandum of Understanding), endorsement from the university administration of the German university, collaboration agreement, Letter of Intent) are not available by the deadline, the project manager should submit at least a written justification by the application deadline.

The above application documents relevant for selection (mandatory documents) must be named in accordance with the specifications and submitted by the deadline in the form of the specified appendix type.

After the application deadline, the DAAD will neither request any further documents nor take into account any additionally supplied documents or changes, including in the financing plan, with the exception of the short version of the project description. Incomplete applications will be excluded from the selection procedure.

The application deadline is **10 December 2018**.

Project funding applications will be assessed by a selection committee appointed by the DAAD comprising external academics with relevant specialisation.

**Selection criteria:**
- The academic qualifications of the Arab project managers
- The quality of the project (clarity of the project objectives and methodology)
- The academic value of the project ( topicality and degree of innovation of the project; relevance to latest issues in terms of the economic, ecological and socio-economic development of the respective Arab partner country)
- The feasibility of the research project (with regard to time)
- The balance of cooperation measures
- The integration and exchange of students and young academics from both sides in the project (support for young academics)
- The consideration of aspects of gender equality

**Selection of students, graduates and doctoral candidates**

Decisions on the selection of students, graduates and doctoral candidates will be made by a selection committee appointed by the grant recipient.

The selection procedure must be presented in the project description:

- Public announcement of the funding programme
- Composition of the selection committee (grant recipient, partner higher education institution, number of committee members)
- Selection criteria (selection of the best applicants, academic achievements, personal aptitude, social and cultural commitment, motivation)
- Selection decision based on a selection report

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Appendices

1. 2019 Funding requirements
2. Country-specific travel allowances for 2019
3. Project description form
4. Project description form (short version)
5. Endorsement from the management of the German higher education institution (in German)
6. Report

Funded by:

Auswärtiges Amt