Procedures and guidelines for supporting higher education cooperation projects with developing countries

Partnerships for the Health Sector in Developing Countries

Funded by the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)

Application deadline: 28/06/2019
Funding period: 01/01/2020–31/12/2023

Note:
These guidelines are published in German and English. Only the German version is legally binding; the English version is for information only.
Partnerships for the Health Sector in Developing Countries – PAGEL 2020–2023

The German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) receives funding from the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) to support the programme “Partnerships for the Health Sector in Developing Countries – PAGEL”.

Description of the goal:
The aim of the programme is to help to strengthen the health sector in partner countries. The long-term objective is to contribute to the sustainable development and creation of high-quality, cosmopolitan higher education institutions in Germany and developing countries. The programme also aims to help German higher education institutions make active partnership contributions to development cooperation and to raise the level of internationalism at the higher education institutions.

The following programme objectives (outcomes) for the PAGEL partnerships are derived from these long-term development policy aims (see Appendix 2):

**Programme objective 1:** The partner higher education institutions offer training and professional development programmes in the field of healthcare that are appropriate to the local context and correspond to the state of the art.

**Programme objective 2:** Development-related professional networks between students, alumni and experts in the field of healthcare are established.

**Programme objective 3** Students from developing countries are prepared for careers in their home countries or regions.

**Programme objective 4:** German higher education institutions have acquired expertise in development cooperation.

**Programme objective 5:** Subject-related, development-related networks are set up between the participating higher education institutions and other institutions.

Description of the purpose:
Based on these programme objectives, the following results (outputs) should be achieved within the scope of a project lasting no more than four years between higher education institutions in Germany and developing countries:

- Curricula/teaching modules in the field of healthcare that are cutting-edge are jointly (further) developed
- Teachers in the field of healthcare at the partner institutions of higher education are qualified in terms of the subject matter and didactics
- Structural prerequisites for study programmes are established
- Students and stakeholders in the field of healthcare are linked and trained
- Existing individual contacts between participating higher education institutions and other institutions are extended and consolidated.

Partnerships that allow long-term institutional ties and lasting South–South contacts enabling dialogue and understanding are particularly deserving of funding. In this connection, it is desirable and useful to make use of additional funding instruments for cooperating with higher education institutions in developing countries (e.g. alumni and material support programmes) in order to create synergies.
Individual partnerships can focus on different areas within the programme goals. It is not necessary for every partnership to contribute to all the programme objectives; however, they must contribute to strengthening teaching at the partner higher education institutions or in the field of healthcare in the respective developing country. Furthermore, the partnerships have flexibility in how they formulate their objectives and how they achieve them; however, the project objectives should be consistent with the programme objectives. Accordingly, higher education institutions are encouraged to develop their partnership projects based on the results framework programme and the programme indicators and to formulate measurable project objectives and related indicators. These must be presented in the application and the project planning overview (see Appendix 2).

The PAGEL programme is accompanied by outcome-based monitoring in coordination with the funding bodies. It is expected that the annual reporting by the participating higher education institutions will be in compliance with the requirements of this monitoring. The annual reporting should address the programme indicators listed in Appendix 2 as well as the project-specific indicators.

The project should focus on the topics of HIV/AIDS, TB, tropical diseases, sexual and reproductive health, women and children’s health, non-contagious diseases (NCD), public health, healthcare reforms and health insurance.

• **Funding module 1: University partnership (also in combination with funding modules 2 and 3)**
  The aim of the partnership is to design, further develop and implement teaching modules and professional development programmes in a developing country, thus contributing to structural improvement and capacity development for training and professional development of healthcare professionals in the respective developing country.

• **Funding module 2: Clinical training/final-year practical training combined with weekend seminars (also in combination with funding modules 1 and 3)**
  This funding module is aimed at medical students from developing countries at German higher education institutions. The training phases take place in developing countries and prepare students for their return to their home countries by offering work placements. They are introduced and concluded by mandatory weekend seminars of **two or three days** that take place in Germany, offering subject-related and intercultural preparation for at least 15 participants. In addition to students from developing countries at the applicant higher education institution, students from developing countries at all other German higher education institutions should also be taken into consideration. The weekend seminars may also focus on topics such as the structure and organisation of German development cooperation, crisis prevention and conflict resolution, management, etc.

• **Funding module 3: Professional development events (only in combination with funding module 1)**
  The professional development events primarily aim to offer subject-related further education for the alumni of German universities from and in developing countries and to extend and consolidate existing individual contacts between participating higher education institutions and other institutions so...
that development-related professional networks can be established. A further aim is for German higher education institutions to acquire expertise in development cooperation.

As a rule, the events should take place in a developing country. For this purpose, lecturers should come from Germany and/or developing countries (especially alumni).

However, events in Germany may also be used for alumni or as follow-up measures for those in the healthcare sector who have returned to their home country. In this way, their connection to Germany can be strengthened and alumni potential can be developed further. In addition, students can be included in order to gain insights into topics specific to developing countries.

As far as possible, the events should be linked to other projects in German development cooperation. The transfer of knowledge should be participatory, i.e. by actively involving regional case studies and participant experience.

Measures eligible for funding are:

**Funding module 1:**
- Costs for travel and visits undertaken by German and international university teachers, academic scholars, students, graduates, PhD students and alumni
- Organisation of events (e.g. workshops and conferences)
  - Here, expense claims may be made for a fixed sum of €50 per day and participant. The lump sum serves to cover expenditure on food, drink and rental of premises. (See Appendix “Grant expenditure eligible”)
- Teaching
- Field trips
- Measures to develop digital teaching and learning materials, including the corresponding technical infrastructure
- Measures for training and continuing education
- Development/revision and/or procurement of teaching and learning materials.

**Funding module 2:**
- Costs for travel and visits undertaken by international medical students
- Organisation of weekend seminars in Germany

**Funding module 3:**
- Costs for travel and visits undertaken by German and international university teachers, academic scholars, students, graduates, PhD students and alumni
- Organisation of professional development events (at least 15 participants per event; for a period of 3–10 days)
  - Here, expense claims may be made for a fixed sum of €50 per day and participant. The lump sum serves to cover expenditure on food and drink and rental of premises (see Appendix “Grant expenditure eligible”).

See Appendix 1 “Grant expenditure eligible”

**Type of financing**

Funding will be provided as deficit funding.

**Funding period**

The funding period begins on 01/01/2020 at the earliest and ends on 31/12/2023 at the latest.
Grant level

**Funding module 1**
The maximum amount available for the DAAD grant is limited to €200,000, or €50,000 per budget year. The maximum amount available for South–South exchange (one partner in the North, two or more partners in the South) is limited to €280,000, or €70,000 per budget year.

**Funding module 2**
The maximum amount available for the DAAD grant is limited to €240,000, or €60,000 per budget year.

**Funding module 3**
The maximum DAAD grant is limited to €200,000, or €50,000 per budget year.

**Combination of funding modules**
The maximum amount available for the DAAD grant is limited to €480,000, or €120,000 per budget year.

Subject area(s)
The programme is open to the subject areas of medicine and psychology.

Target group

**Funding module 1:**
University teachers, non-professorial teaching staff, graduates (e.g. PhD students) and students from Germany and the developing countries.

**Funding module 2:**
Medical students from developing countries at German higher education institutions.

**Funding module 3:**
The target groups are students and alumni from German higher education institutions and experts and disseminators from and in developing countries.

Eligible applicants

Those eligible to apply are German higher education institutions represented by their departments related to the health sector, university hospitals, tropical medicine institutes and non-university research institutions that

- Have experience with sector-specific questions of relevance to development policy
- Wish to cooperate and build up a partnership with qualified partners in developing countries. The collaborative partnership is based on written cooperation agreements concluded by the directors with at least one partner in a developing country (see Appendix 4)
- That wish to be involved in helping students from developing countries at German higher education institutions return to their home countries

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/irj/portal). German or English may be used.

Application requirements

**Application documents relevant for the selection process**

- Project application (please enter an informative project title) in DAAD portal
- Financing plan (in DAAD portal)
- Project description drawn up and signed by potential cooperation partner(s) (maximum of 10 DIN A4 pages, in German or English) (appendix type: project description)
- In addition to a concrete description of the project and measures, this should include the following points:
  - Initial situation
- The problem and justification in terms of development policy, including a description of the situation to date, where appropriate, and the current status of the partnership (in the case of follow-up DAAD applications, Details of the previous project should be given here)
- Direct and indirect target groups, if applicable
- Project objectives: Short description of the intended direct effects (outcomes) of the project
- Project concept: The description should explain how the project contributes to achieving the objectives of the DAAD PAGEL programme. This should also include an explanation of which project-specific outputs are designed to lead to which outcomes. An explanation of who is to realise which project activities and when, in order to achieve the outputs. The outcomes, outputs and activities must be transferred to the project planning overview (Appendix 3). There, one or two informative indicators suitable for specifying and measuring project outcomes and outputs must be given (Appendix 2)
- Involvement of German and international academic scholars: description of the collaboration between participating German and international academic scholars, including a description of how support for young academics and student exchange is to be implemented
- Risks to project success: description of framework conditions that support and hinder the project as well as risks that could have an influence on the success of the project
  - Project planning overview (appendix type: programme-specific appendices)
  - Specific justification of own interest in the project by the international partner institution (appendix type: programme-specific appendices); if already signed, the partnership agreement relevant to the contract should be submitted prior to selection, and otherwise before conclusion of the contract
  - Short descriptions of the participating higher education institutions (appendix type: programme-specific appendices)
  - Endorsement by the university management (appendix type: programme-specific appendices)
  - Project description (short version), (Appendix 6) (appendix type: project description)
  - If necessary, a calculation/estimate of non-accountable revenue and expenditure, as appropriate (appendix type: additional financial information)

The above-mentioned application documents relevant for selection (mandatory documents) are to 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 documents nor take into account any additionally supplied documents or changes, including in the financing plan. Incomplete applications will be excluded from the selection procedure.

**Application documents relevant to the contract** (to be submitted prior to conclusion of the contract at the latest)
Partnership agreement (cooperation agreement) between the participating German and international higher education institutions; signed by the respective university management or authorised signatories (appendix type: contracts/agreements)

**Note:**
Funding is possible not only for bilateral partnerships but also for projects involving several partners/countries, if the goal of the project meets the programme criteria and the benefits of the project are clear in terms of development policy.

The application deadline is 28 June 2019.

A selection committee composed of academic experts with the relevant specialisation and experience of cooperation with developing countries will be appointed by the DAAD to decide on the applications for project funding.

Applications are assessed according to form- and content-related criteria, with special consideration of relevance to development policy and effect orientation. Content-related criteria are derived from the programme aims and indicators described in the results framework.

In particular, the assessment takes the following criteria into consideration:

- **Quality of the project** (focusing on the quality and relevance of the study programmes to be developed for the health sector in the developing country):
  - Subject-specific expertise of the participating higher education institutions
  - Previous experience of German project managers regarding projects in, or target groups from, developing countries
  - Experience of German project managers in managing international projects
  - Realisability of project objectives with planned measures within the scheduled period
  - Balanced project concept covering various areas
  - Suitable and balanced cost calculation: Personnel resources should generally not exceed 25% of total project-related expenditure per respective budget year. (See Appendix 1).

- **Project relevance to development policy**
  - Consideration of principles of development cooperation: planning, design and execution are oriented to the needs of the partner higher education institution(s) and conducted together.
  - Plausible justification of how the project can generally contribute to the development of the partner institution and/or partner country through its subject-specific and regional orientation.

- **Relation to results framework of programme and outcome-based project planning**
  - Clear relation of the design or effect logic of the project to the results framework of the programme and objectives specified therein.
  - Formulation of suitable indicators permitting results-oriented monitoring of the project.

- **Balance of cooperation measures**
  - Agreement and collaboration of the participating cooperation partners.
  - Own contribution of the German and international higher education institutions.
  - Integration and exchange of students and academic scholars on both sides.

- **Sustainability**
  - Networking with other higher education institutions and stakeholders in the region, South–South partnerships.
Establishment of sustainable cooperation structures that remain beyond the funding period.

**Contact**

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**Appendices**

1. Grant expenditure eligible  
2. Guide to results-oriented monitoring  
3. Project planning overview  
4. OECD DAC list  
5. Endorsement of application by German administration  
6. Project description (short version)

With financial support from the

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