Procedures and guidelines for supporting Subject-Related Partnerships with Institutions of Higher Education 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
Supporting “Subject-Related Partnerships with Institutions of Higher Education in Developing Countries” (2020–2023)

The German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) receives funding from the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) to support the programme “Subject-Related Partnerships with Institutions of Higher Education in Developing Countries”.

Description of the goal:
The long-term objective of the programme is to contribute to the sustainable development and creation of high-quality, cosmopolitan higher education institutions in Germany and partner countries. To achieve this, teaching at the partner higher education institutions is to be strengthened in their structures and existing collaborative structures between the participating higher education institutions are to be consolidated. The programme is also intended to help German higher education institutions become involved as partners in development cooperation and to support the higher education institutions’ internationalisation strategies.

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

Programme objective 1: The partner higher education institutions offer courses of study that are appropriate to the local context and correspond to the state of the art

Programme objective 2: German higher education institutions have acquired expertise in development cooperation

Programme objective 3: Subject-related, development-related networks are set up between the participating higher education institutions and other institutions

Description of the purpose:
Based on the formulated 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 that are cutting-edge and suit the local context are jointly (further) developed
• Teachers at the partner institutions of higher education are qualified in terms of the subject matter and didactics
• Structural prerequisites for study programmes are established
• 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 essential for every partnership to contribute to all of the programme’s objectives; however, it is crucial that a contribution is made towards structurally reinforcing teaching at the partner higher education institutions. The partnerships have flexibility in how they formulate their objectives and how
they achieve them; the project objectives must 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 Subject-Related Partnerships with Institutions of Higher Education in Developing Countries programme is supported by indicator-based and results-oriented 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. Higher education institutions with funding commitments will receive all the documents required for this purpose when they receive the funding agreement.

Measures eligible for funding are:

▪ 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
▪ Further education and training
▪ Development/revision and/or procurement of teaching/learning materials

Note:
The expenditure eligible for funding under this measure can be found in the “Grant expenditure eligible” appendix.

For initiating cooperations, readers are referred to the Fact Finding Missions programme, for which there is an individual call for applications.

See Appendix “Grant expenditure eligible”

Funding will be provided as deficit financing.

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

▪ The maximum DAAD grant for four years is € 200,000, or € 50,000 per budget year for a partnership between a German and one or more international higher education institutions.

▪ In the case of multilateral cooperations (one partner in the North, two or more partners in the South, generally in different partner countries), the funding volume for South–South exchange may be increased to a total of € 280,000, or € 70,000 per budget year.

The programme is open to all subject areas.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Target group</th>
<th>University teachers, non-professorial teaching staff, graduates (e.g. PhD students) and students from Germany and the developing countries.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Eligible applicants</td>
<td>German higher education institutions are eligible for application at institute or department level, represented by university teachers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Submission of applications</td>
<td>The application for project funding must be completed in full and submitted by the stipulated deadline exclusively via the DAAD portal (<a href="https://portal.daad.de/irj/portal">https://portal.daad.de/irj/portal</a>). German or English may be used.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| 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 partners (higher education institution/business/industry) (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 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 (see 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 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) (see Appendix No. 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 (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 appointed by the DAAD will decide on the applications for project funding.

**Selection criteria**
Applications are assessed according to form- and content-related criteria, with special consideration of relevance to development policy and outcome-orientation of the project concept and planning. **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 project**
  - Subject-specific expertise of the higher education institutions involved
  - 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 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 development of the partner institution and/or partner country through its subject-specific and regional orientation

- **Relation to results framework of programme and results-oriented 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
  o Agreement and collaboration of participating cooperation partners
  o Own contribution of German and international higher education institutions
  o Integration and exchange of students and academic scholars on both sides

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

Contact
German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD)
Section P 32 – Development Cooperation: Partnership Programmes, Alumni Projects and Higher Education Management
Kennedyallee 50
53175 Bonn, Germany

Contact:
Berno Birker
Telephone: +49 228 882-8671
Email: birker(at)daad.de

Claudia Geratz (Mon–Fri, part-time)
Telephone: +49 228 882-145
Email: geratz(at)daad.de

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 university management
6. Project description template (short version)

With financial support from the

Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development