German-Arab Transformation Partnership, 2021-2022, programme line 4: German-Arab Research Partnerships with partner universities in Algeria, Iraq, Yemen, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, the Sudan and Tunisia

The German Academic Exchange Service (Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst - DAAD) is distributing funds provided by the German Foreign Office (Auswärtiges Amt – AA) for the programme "German-Arab Transformation Partnership: Research Partnerships". The purpose of the programme is to support excellent Arab alumni (normally DAAD alumni) from the listed target countries after a PhD in entering the postdoc research phase in their home country. The research priority when developing and implementing a specific, high-quality joint research project should be on the target country.

The programme makes a long-term contribution (impact) to increasing the employability of junior scientists and developing structures for support of junior scientists at the partner universities. In addition, it should promote the long-term quality of research and teaching at the partner universities and consolidate networking of universities in the region. The programme also contributes to supporting the transformation process in the partner countries and the innovation and transfer capabilities of the higher education institutions. The partner higher education institutions are links between science, business and society in the target countries.

The following programme objectives (outcomes) are derived from these impacts:

**Programme objective 1:** The DAAD alumni have led a research programme (as postdocs) and gained leadership experience.

**Programme objective 2:** The DAAD alumni and junior scientists are integrated into research networks.

**Programme objective 3:** Research projects on current economic, environmental and social topics have been implemented.

**Programme objective 4:** Junior scientists have undergone further technical and methodical training in accordance with the international state of the art in science.

These programme objectives should be achieved by means of the following direct results of measures/activities (outputs):

- Responsibilities and thematic priorities are defined in the research project.
- International and research-relevant contacts between the participant higher education institutions and external partners have been extended and/or consolidated.
- The competences and knowledge of the junior scientists and DAAD alumni have been extended.
- The equipment/research infrastructure at the partner institute have been extended and are used in the project.

The alumnus/alumna puts together and coordinates a research group with local researchers and involves participants from all qualification levels. The findings of the research group are continually documented and communicated in publications and talks. Not only should the alumnus or alumna pre-
sent the (interim) results and attend international conventions and/or conferences; this should also involve the doctoral candidates and scientific research assistants of the research group.

Individual projects can focus on different aspects within the programme. It is not necessary for every project to aim to achieve all programme objectives (programme outcomes) to the same extent, a project should also pursue all programme objectives. Projects are also permitted room for manoeuvre in formulating their objectives and in their strategies for achieving them; whereby the project objectives must be consistent with programme objectives. The higher education institutions are accordingly asked to develop their projects based on the programme's impact analysis structure and programme indicators, thus enabling them to formulate measurable project objectives and associated indicators. These must be presented in the application and project planning summary (for the detailed procedure see the RoM handout on Results-Oriented Project Planning and Monitoring).

Eligible Measures / activities

- Attendance/implementation of subject-related scientific events (conventions, seminars, workshops if possible in one of the cooperation countries, summer schools, conferences)
- Implementation of short teaching and research residences (max 3 months)
- Exchange of graduate groups and groups of doctoral researchers for attendance at joint subject events, implementation of test series and other scientifically founded joint projects and measures
- Acquisition of devices and library equipment for the partner institute in the Arab target countries.

The following are not eligible for funding:

- Measures / activities which are focused exclusively at a research cooperation
- Representational trips without subject relationship
- Residences used exclusively to fund individuals and are not granted as part of a partnership project.

All costs that are necessary and appropriate for project implementation (implementation of the measures) are eligible for funding (for details, see Annex 1: Grant expenditure eligible and funding rates).

Type of financing

Funding takes the form of full financing.

Funding period

The funding period begins at the earliest on 01/01/2021 and ends at the latest on 31/12/2022.

Follow-up applications:
The funding period begins at the earliest on 01/01/2021 and ends at the latest on 31/12/2021 - to continue the project successes of the German-Arab research partnerships which started on 01/03/2019 and end on 31/12/2020.

For administrative reasons, the applications for project funding will be selected in February 2021. The applicants are therefore requested to submit an informal application for an early start of the measures by the deadline, in addition to the application for project funding. The DAAD’s approval of an early start of the measures does not constitute a legal entitlement to funding for the applied for project. If a project is not granted funding or no grant agreement is concluded, the applicants themselves must bear any payments to which they committed themselves relying upon DAAD funding.

The maximum amount of the DAAD grant is 180,000 euros, split into budget years as follows:
2021: 90,000 euros
2022: 90,000 euros

**Follow-up applications:**
The maximum amount of the DAAD grant for follow-up applications (for a definition, see "Funding period") is 90,000 euros.

The programme is open to all disciplines.

Applications from the humanities or social sciences are especially welcome.

University lecturers, university employees, graduates, doctoral researchers and students from Germany and the Arab partner countries.

Eligible applicants are officially recognised German higher education state institutions and non-university research institutions headquartered in Germany which are recognised as non-profit organisations and conduct their own research.

The Arab project manager must normally be a DAAD alumnus / alumna and have spent at least 6 months of their doctoral phase in Germany. The alumnus'/alumna's doctorate should normally not have been obtained more than 5 years ago.

The application for project funding may only be submitted in complete form and before the deadline via the DAAD portal ([www.mydaad.de](http://www.mydaad.de)).

**Application documents relevant to selection**
- Project application (in the DAAD portal)
- Finance plan (in the DAAD portal)
- Project description in German or English (see form template) (attachment type: project description)
- Project planning document (see form template) (attachment type: programme-specific attachments)
- Approval of the project application by German university management (see form template) (attachment type: programme-specific attachments)
- Approval by foreign partner institution/s (Memorandum of Understanding or Letter of Intent) signed by the foreign university management (attachment type: contracts/agreements)
- Scholarship certificate of the alumnus/alumna (foreign project management) (attachment type: programme-specific attachments)
- CV and publication list of the Arab project management, further references demonstrating scientific qualifications if available (attachment type: programme-specific attachments)
- If applicable, CVs and publication lists for further scientific project participants on the partner’s side (master's degree or higher) (attachment type: programme-specific attachments) written explanation by project management if cooperation agreement is to be submitted at a later date (attachment type: contracts/agreements)
- written explanation by project management if cooperation agreement is to be submitted at a later date (attachment type: contracts/agreements)

The application documents relevant to selection must be named according to the guidelines and submitted under the specified attachment type prior to the application deadline.

After contract conclusion, documents submitted late (exception: cooperation agreement) and amendments, including to the financing plan, are no longer
taken into account. Incomplete applications will be excluded from the selection process.

Application deadline

The application deadline is **07 December 2020**.

Selection procedure

The DAAD will make its funding decision based on evaluation of the applications by a selection committee.

**Selection criteria**

- Relationship of the project to the programme objectives (as per the impact analysis structure) and results-oriented planning using indicators that meet the SMART criteria
- Scientific quality of the project and the qualification of the persons involved
- Contribution to long-term structural formation at the partner university and to the employability of junior scientists
- Balance of the measures, including with regard to an equal exchange on both sides
- Practical realisability of the project

Participant selection procedure

A selection committee appointed by the grant recipient decides on the selection of the participants.

The selection procedure must be described in the project description:

- Public announcement of the funding programme
- Composition of the selection committee (grant recipients, partner university, number of committee members)
- Selection criteria (selection of the best, performance, personal suitability, social, cultural commitment, motivation)
- Selection decision based on a selection protocol

Contact

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Attachments to the call for applications

1. Grant expenditure eligible and funding rates
2. Fee table

Important information and form templates

- Project description
- Project planning overview
- Effects-oriented monitoring handout
- Approval by German university management
- Completion aids for financing plan
- Mobility information for those with a disability or chronic illness