



**THE GERMAN VERSION OF THIS DOCUMENT SHALL BE LEGALLY BINDING**

**FUNDING FRAMEWORK**

**German Indian Academic Network for Tomorrow (GIANT) 2025-2026**

**PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES**

**1**

The German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) supports the "German Indian Academic Network for Tomorrow" funding programme with funds from the Federal Foreign Office (AA). The program is co-financed by the Indian Ministry of Education under the Scheme for Promotion Academic Research & Collaboration (SPARC) coordinated by IIT Kharagpur.

The GIANT program supports the strengthening of cooperative relationships between German and Indian higher education and research institutions as well as joint research and the deepening of academic cooperation that contributes to the knowledge-based economy and social progress in both countries. Within this framework, study, teaching, research, networking and/or further education and training visits and events as well as planning and steering meetings and the joint further development of curricula, teaching modules and learning materials can be realized.

**The objectives of the funding programme are**

- 1: Master’s and doctoral students, teachers, (junior) academics and/or university management staff have acquired (inter)disciplinary and/or administrative competences and gained international and intercultural experience.
- 2: The research results of the programme are accessible to the (inter)national public.
- 3: Internationally orientated curricula, teaching modules and learning materials are offered.
- 4: International cooperation between the participating universities and, where applicable, non-university stakeholders is established and is the starting point for further cooperation.

Different priorities can be set in each project. Project objectives do not have to be defined for all programme objectives.

With regard to the funding logic and the results (outputs), programme objectives (outcomes) and longer-term effects (impacts) of the funding programme, see the impact structure in the WoM handout (see **Annex 1**).

### **Ecological sustainability**

The DAAD has set itself the goal of further reducing its ecological footprint as an organisation and funding body. In the context of project funding, the aim should be to plan and implement projects in a way that conserves resources, the climate and the environment. This applies in particular to mobility/travelling and, depending on the type and scope of the project, can also relate to procurement and awarding, event management or marketing and public relations. Further information on climate-sensitive implementation of international university cooperation in DAAD project funding [can be found in the handout](#).

### **Diversity**

In its diversity agenda, the DAAD defines diversity, equal opportunities and inclusion as important cross-cutting goals for international academic exchange. Talented people should also be given the opportunity to contribute their diversity and different perspectives within the framework of project funding. Projects must be planned and realised with this cross-cutting objective in mind. Additional funding can be provided for people with disabilities and chronic illnesses (see information sheet "Information on mobility with disabilities and chronic illnesses"). Further information on diversity and equal opportunities in DAAD-funded projects [can be found in the handout](#).

## **ELIGIBLE MEASURES**

### **2**

Eligible measures as part of the co-financed programme are as follows:

- Mobilities of German outgoings for study, teaching, research, networking and/or further education and training stays at an Indian partner university as part of a cooperation and for participation in bi- and multinational events (e.g. summer/winter schools, conferences)
  - for master's students, doctoral students (up to six months/calendar year), for postdoctoral researchers, experienced academics, professors, assistants and senior university staff (up to one month/calendar year).
- Stays of Indian incomings of at least 7 days for study, teaching, research, networking and/or further education and training purposes at the German partner university as part of the cooperation and for participation in bi- and multinational events (e.g. summer/winter schools, conferences).

- for master's students, doctoral students (up to six months/calendar year), for postdoctoral researchers, experienced academics, professors, assistants and senior university staff (up to one month/calendar year).

Material resources for organising events in Germany (excursions, summer schools, specialist conferences, seminars according to indicator catalogue)

## ELIGIBLE EXPENDITURE

### 3

All expenditure necessary for the realisation of the project (implementation of the measures) is eligible for funding. This includes in particular

#### **Personnel resources for project implementation and support**

- research associates (for project coordination max. 0.5 EG 13)
- research assistants
- student assistants
- other personnel

Personnel expenses include the gross salary of the employer. Special annual payments under collective agreements are only eligible for funding for the approval period and only insofar as the payment date falls within this period. Other individual and collectively agreed one-off payments are only eligible for funding if the DAAD has made a provision to this effect and provides information about it.

#### **Material resources**

**HONORARIES** (not for own staff)

for external speakers and external service providers for translations of e.g. teaching and learning materials, flyers, brochures, webpages

The amount of the fee may be based on the rates stated in **Appendix 2** or on customary local rates.

Expenses for mobility and, if applicable, accommodation can also be applied for and claimed in accordance with the principles of economic efficiency and economy (rail journeys - regardless of their duration - only 2nd class, flights only in economy class). These expenses, which do not relate to the fee itself, must be included in the fee agreement.

#### **MOBILITY OF PROJECT PERSONNEL**

Expenses for travel/flights can be applied for and claimed in accordance with BRKG/LRKG; in deviation from this, rail journeys only 2nd class and flights only in economy class.

## MATERIAL RESOURCES DOMESTIC/ABROAD

- Consumables (e.g. test tubes, paper)
- Room hire (e.g. rent for conference rooms only if it can be proven that none of the participating universities have rooms available)
- Printing/publications/advertising and public relations (e.g. flyers, brochures, posters, scientific publications)
- External services (e.g. coach travel, catering, repair services, translations), IT services (e.g. development/set-up/maintenance of communication and learning platforms, websites, e-journals, online libraries)
- Contributions to international health insurance for German participants
- Other (e.g. transfer fees, telephone/internet/postage charges)

## Funded persons

### MOBILITY OF FUNDED PERSONS

- Mobility allowance
  - › Mobility between Germany ↔ India  
For German master's students, doctoral candidates, experienced academics, professors, a mobility allowance can be applied for and claimed for travel/flights from Germany to India and back:
    - 1.425 Euro – master's students, doctoral candidates
    - 1.750 Euro – scientists with a doctorate, professors
  - › The mobility allowance is payable from the first day of the trip and must be evidenced by a list of participants signed by the participants (this must be submitted with the interim/utilisation report at the request of the DAAD). The mobility allowance covers all expenses associated with the trip (including travel and flights as well as expenses for visas, vaccinations, excess baggage, baggage insurance, etc.).

- **Note:**

The expenses for mobility on the Indian side are covered by the Indian partner university.

### STAY OF FUNDED PERSONS

- Accommodation allowance
  - › Foreign master's students, doctoral students, academics and professors from India can apply for and claim a flat-rate subsistence allowance (see table) for their stay (accommodation and meals) in Germany.
  - › The accommodation flat rate is payable on the first day of the stay and must be evidenced by a list of participants signed by the participants (this must be submitted with evidence of use at the request of the DAAD). The accommodation flat rate covers the costs of accommodation and meals as well as health, accident and liability insurance.

**Table of allowances (Euro)**

Indian participants in Germany	Monthly rate (from 23rd day)	Daily rate (stay up to 22 days)	Daily rate (in the last month non completed)
Master’s students	992	45	33
Doctoral students	1.300	58	43
Postdocs	2.000	89	67
Experienced Scientists	2.150	96	72
Professors or Scientists in a comparable position	2.300	103	77

Arrival and departure days each count as one day.

• **Note:**

Expenses for stays (accommodation and meals) of the German participants in India are covered by the Indian side.

**TYPE OF FINANCING**

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Funding takes the form of **full financing**.

**FUNDING PERIOD**

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The funding period begins at the earliest on **01 April 2025** and ends at the latest on **31 March 2026**.

**GRANT AMOUNT**

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A grant of up to **100,000** euros can be applied for, broken down by financial year as follows:

- 2025: 75,000 euros
- 2026: 25,000 euros

**DISCIPLINES**

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The program is open **to all disciplines**. Cooperation is planned in the following areas:

Energy, Sustainability and Climate  
Smart Cities & Mobility  
Semiconductors and New Materials  
Healthcare and MedTech  
Supercomputing, AI, Quantum Computing  
Advanced Manufacturing & Industry 4.0

Applications are not limited to STEM disciplines; applications from the social sciences and humanities are also welcome, as long as the projects are related to these fields, e. g. investigating the ethical, socio-economic or legal implications of the respective scientific teaching and research.

## TARGET GROUP

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Master's students, doctoral students, (Young-) scientists, postdocs, professors, university management staff of German and Indian universities, non-university stake-holders of particular relevance to the project

## ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

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Eligible applicants are **state and state-recognised German universities**.

## SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION

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The application for project funding must be submitted in complete form and in due time exclusively via the DAAD portal ([www.mydaad.de](http://www.mydaad.de)). In addition, the following documents must be uploaded in the "Attachments" tab:

- Project description, see **form template** (attachment type: project description)
- Project planning overview, see **form template** (attachment type: Project planning overview)
- Cooperation agreement of the participating university/universities; subsequent submission is possible until conclusion of the contract with justification (attachment type: contracts/agreements)
- Endorsement by the university management, see **form template**; subsequent submission is possible until conclusion of contract with justification (attachment type: program specific attachments)

After the application deadline, changes to the financing plan, project description and subsequently submitted or amended documents will no longer be considered.

### Note:

The Indian partner university submits a parallel application to IIT Kharagpur for funding under the Scheme for Promotion of Academic & Research Collaboration (SPARC) programme.

## APPLICATION DEADLINE

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Application deadline is 31<sup>st</sup> January 2025.

## SELECTION PROCEDURE

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### Selection of applications for project funding

The DAAD decides on funding on the basis of the evaluation of the applications by a selection committee.

#### SELECTION CRITERIA

- (1) Technical and substantive quality of the project in relation to the achievement of the project and programme objectives (weighting: 60%)
- (2) Quality and stringency of project planning (weighting: 15 %)
- (3) Impact of the project on the individual target groups and addressed areas beyond the funding period of the project (weighting: 5 %)
- (4) Consideration of diversity (weighting: 5 %)
- (5) Climate-sensitive project organisation (weighting: 5 %)

## PARTICIPANT SELECTION PROCEDURE

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### Selection of participants

The grant recipient decides on the selection of participants on the basis of a selection committee appointed by it.

When selecting participants, balanced participation and promotion of women must be ensured and demonstrated.

- Public announcement of the funding programme
- Composition of the selection committee (e.g. funding recipient, partner university, number of committee members)
- Selection criteria (e.g. professional or personal suitability)
- Selection decision based on a selection protocol

The selection procedure must be described in the project description.

## ATTACHMENTS

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1. WoM handout (incl. Impact structure, indicator catalogue)
2. Fee table

## FORM TEMPLATES

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- Project description
- Project planning *overview*
- Endorsement by university management

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

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- Leaflet "Information on mobility with disabilities and chronic illness"
- Handout "Climate-sensitive implementation of international university cooperation in DAAD project funding"
- Handout "Diversity and equal opportunities in DAAD-funded projects"
- Example project planning overview
- Overview of help texts for mandatory/detailed information Financing plan
- FAQ
- Link to WoM Videos: [Video 1](#) and [Video 2](#)

### Note:

On 12 December 2024 from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m., an information event on the application process with a focus on impact-oriented monitoring (WoM) will take place via MS Teams. You can register informally by sending an email to [P24@daad.de](mailto:P24@daad.de), stating your surname, first name, function, institution, department and email address.

## CONTACT

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