

LEAFLET

**Procedures and Guidelines on Funding
DIES*-Partnerships with Higher Education Institutions
in Developing Countries**

Topic:

- Higher Education Management

Applicants:

- University Executives and Senior Staff from the Central University Management
- Heads of Central University Facilities (International Offices, Careers Advice Centres, Technology Transfer Units, university-wide graduate schools, etc.)
 - Deans and Faculty Managers
- Heads of University Management Degree Programmes

**Application Deadline: 30 June 2012
Funding Term: 2013-2016**

* **DIES** stands for “Dialogue on Innovative Higher Education Strategies”. This programme area is jointly developed by the DAAD and HRK.

Financially supported by:



DIES-Partnerships with Higher Education Institutions in Developing Countries

Background and Objectives of the DIES Programme

The "**D**ialogue on Innovative Higher **E**ducation **S**trategies" programme offers a whole package of measures made up of training courses, dialogue events, projects and partnerships with which higher education institutions in developing countries can align their training programmes in accordance with international quality standards, can expand their research capacities and can competitively develop their organisational structures.

The growing demand for higher education in developing countries as well as and increasingly the general globalisation trends, including in the field of education, present a particular challenge and have resulted in a need for the internationalisation and quality assurance of higher education institutions and degree programmes worldwide. This calls – and not only in developing countries, but also in Germany – for additional competences and sets much higher and more challenging standards for coordinators and administrators at universities, faculties, departments as well as a special university training and research facilities to meet. The programme aims to enable well-trained professionals and specialists to make more efficient use of the already scarce resources and to create incentives for improving quality.

DIES is financed from the budget of the Federal Ministry for Economic Co-operation and Development (BMZ).

What Objectives do DIES Partnerships pursue?

DIES Partnerships promote cooperation between universities in Germany and in emerging and developing countries in the field of higher education management with concrete projects designed to run for a **maximum of four years**.

Specifically, DIES Partnerships pursue the following objectives:

- To **improve the management of university structures and resources** in respect of their internationalisation and to raise their international competitiveness,
- To **systematically improve the range of studies and conditions offered at the level of the institution as a whole** or the faculty, in particular, regarding the quality, relevance and the degree of internationalisation of the curricula and methods,
- To **continue and advance the training levels** and promote the international collaborative experience of participating university executives and managers from developing countries,
- To **consolidate** partnerships which facilitate the organisation of longer-term, institutional bonds,
- To create sustainable **networks** between German universities and their partner institutions as well as encouraging South-South networking.

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What topics are possible?

- To establish and expand the **central university facilities** (International Offices, Quality Assurance Units, Careers Advice Centres, Technology Transfer Units, Graduate Schools etc.),
- To realise **innovative Change Processes** in the field of central university management (Human Resources, Infrastructure, Finances, Organisation, etc.),
- To use **strategic or operational management instruments** at university or faculty level (e.g. Target Agreements, Balanced Scorecard, Network Management, Quality and Process Management, etc.),
- To include **external interest groups** (stakeholders) in the field of university or faculty development (Graduate or Destination Surveys, Alumni Networks, Fundraising, etc.),
- To create and advance the development of tertiary **continuing and postgraduate training programmes** on topics relating to higher education management,
- To support the introduction of innovations in higher education management through **university consortia**.

Applications on topics which are primarily resolved at degree programme or departmental level (e.g. Quality Assurance in degree programmes, Curriculum Development of degree programmes, including at interdisciplinary level, establishing graduate schools at departmental or faculty level), should be submitted under the programme "Subject-related Partnerships with Universities in Developing Countries" (DAAD-Section 434). If you are uncertain about how your project has been assessed, please send us an informal outline of the planned project as early as possible so that the DAAD can advise you of the outcome in good time.

Who can apply?

To qualify for DIES Partnership Funding, a partnership-based application produced by a German and at least one foreign university is a prerequisite. Partnership projects involving two or more universities from developing or emerging countries – ideally located in different partner countries – are particularly welcomed.

As a rule, **applicants are:**

- **University executives** and **senior staff** from the central university management
- Heads of **central university facilities** (International Offices, Careers Advice Centres, Technology Transfer Units, university-wide graduate schools, etc.)
- **Deans** and **Faculty Managers**
- Heads of **University management degree programmes**

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Funding Criteria

The decision on which applications qualify for funding or on the scope of funding is made by a Selection Committee appointed by the DAAD Executive Board. The respective committee members are scientists and academics from the subject in question and with particular experience in cooperating with developing countries under consideration of the specified criteria and in accordance with the available resources.

Applications are assessed on the basis of formal and contentual criteria. In formal terms, it is absolutely essential that a **written cooperation agreement** has been concluded at university executive level between the participating universities. This agreement between the University Principals (**Rectors/Vice-Chancellors/Presidents**) can, in exceptional cases, also be submitted later after the project has been approved, but must have been presented to the DAAD before the Grant Agreement was signed.

The fundamental requirement for DIES Partnership Funding is that the application has been **produced in partnership** with all the participating universities, both in identifying the demand for continuing training as well as in the programme planning and design, and that equal opportunity and a spirit of equity are clearly seen to be adding to the cooperation when implementing the project.

The key contentual criteria derive from the **above-outlined objectives**.

The project's **Development Policy Relevance** is of prime importance. Examples include the contribution made towards "institution building" at the partner university, thereby coordinating the measures taken by German and international development cooperation organisations, the integration of two or more universities – as a rule from partner countries with differing development stages – for promoting South-South knowledge transfer and exchange or for expanding the range of workshops and seminars across the region.

Measures to secure **a project's sustainability** are just as important. Inter-complementary projects that lead to lasting institutional bonds developing between the partners are particularly worthy of support. The DAAD expressly welcomes the coordination of planned collaborative projects with other universities, which maintain comparable agreements, or with further DIES and DAAD measures. We would also recommend that you cooperate with the relevant, official institutions and facilities in the partner countries, such as the science ministries, rectors' conferences and accreditation councils.

Furthermore, importance is attached to the following aspects, including, among others:

- **The impact and sustainable improvements to the efficient management of resources and structures to be achieved at the** foreign partner university, such as joint conferences or Mission Statement development workshops to assess potentials/benchmarking, quality assurance as preparation for certifying, accrediting and building networks),

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- the **quality of the projects and measures specified in the application** (whereby the focus is not on disciplinary collaboration in teaching and research, but rather on cooperation to improve university management),
- the **cross-structural orientation of the projects** (university or faculty-wide, or at inter-university level),
- the **balanced** participation of partners in the cooperation measures,
- the **institutional contributions made by the German university** as well as the state or external funds raised; the **achievements made by the partner university or universities** in the developing country,
- the **integration of alumni** formerly educated and trained in Germany and who now hold executive administrative positions.

Information on the Application Process

To apply please submit a **full Online Application** via the DAAD Portal (<https://portal.daad.de>).

The application deadline is 30 June each year. The funding can commence as from January in the following year.

The DAAD requests you to nominate a university teacher/staff member who will take on responsibility as the partnership coordinator for the German university and a corresponding contact person in the partner country. For the DAAD, the German partnership coordinator is the contact person in contentual and financial terms. The partnership coordinator is accountable to the DAAD as far as the project is concerned.

In agreement with the foreign partner, the application should be worded in a common language (German or English) and should be signed both by the German partnership coordinator as well as the foreign partner or partners. Please be sure to take note of the "Application Information" when completing the application forms (Annex 2).

What is Funded?

The DAAD grant is made up of a budget deficit plan for all project-specific eligible expenses additionally caused by the project. Eligible means any payments made during the Approval Term up to the level of the DAAD Rates, as listed in **Annex1**.

- The **maximum amount** of funding for a partnership between a German and a foreign university is **€ 50,000.- per year. The funding can essentially be paid over a maximum of four years.**
- In multilateral collaborations (one North, two or more South partners – generally partner countries with differing development stages), the funding volume can be topped-up by up to **€ 20,000.- per year.**

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Funding cannot be provided for:

- Subject-related Partnerships with Universities in Developing Countries (For these topics, please refer to the corresponding programme with its own separate Information Sheet),
- Applications which aim exclusively to raise research funding (because other sources or opportunities are available, such as the DFG, or the Volkswagen Foundation, for example, etc.),
- Projects that are funded by other organisations (e.g. the DFG, BMZ, GIZ, as well as international sponsors such as the Rockefeller or Ford Foundation) with the same objectives,
- Travel without specialised terms of reference and excursions,
- Applications with a budget of less than € 10,000 Euros per year;
- Research stays by scientists and students (please refer to the general scholarship and research funding programmes).

The allocation of funds is governed by funding agreements concluded between the DAAD and the German University under the Federal Grants Act.

In principle, the payment of grants for the 2nd, 3rd and 4th funding years must be accompanied in each case by a detailed final report on the measures taken along with a financial statement of accounts for the previous year.

The programme is financed from the budget of the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). Please check the [OECD-DAC-List](#), to determine which countries are eligible for funding.

Contact Persons and Further Information.

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Annexes to the Call

- Annex 1: Funding Rates
- Annex 2: Information on Submitting Applications
- Annex 3: Information on Completing the Business Plan