

Basic Information

appear

Austrian Partnership Programme
in Higher Education and Research
for Development

OBJECTIVE

Strengthening of institutional capacities in education, research and management in the key regions in the South of the Austrian Development Cooperation (ADC) through academic partnerships with Austrian academic institutions and Master's and PhD programmes

Thematic focus of the Programme

- Higher education and research for development
- Water supply and sanitation, rural development, energy, private sector development, governance and human rights
- Poverty reduction, environment and natural resources, peace building and conflict prevention, gender
- Strengthening of socio-economic capacities

Eligible countries in the South

- Ethiopia, Uganda, Kenya
- Mozambique
- Cape Verde, Burkina Faso, Senegal
- Nicaragua, El Salvador, Guatemala
- Bhutan, Nepal
- Palestinian Territories

Activities

1. Academic partnerships
Preparatory funding
2. Master's/PhD grants

Contact

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ACADEMIC PARTNERSHIPS

Target Group

Universities, universities of applied sciences and research institutions in the eligible countries and in Austria

Funding policy

Academic partnerships between universities, universities of applied sciences and/or research institutions intending to improve the quality of education and research and/or the management capacities of the partners in the key regions of the Austrian Development Cooperation

Possible activities

In the field of education and research

- Development of curricula or learning material (e.g. innovative content)
- Assurance of quality standards in teaching, methodology and research and improvement of academic management capacities
- Training measures for the academic staff
- Development of joint study programmes with joint degrees
- Student and teacher exchanges
- Preparation of submissions of applications for specific EU programmes for the Southern partners
- Development of co-financing strategies as contribution to sustainable partnerships
- Applied and demand-driven research projects (the requirements/necessities should be based on the institutional and societal needs in the Southern country)
- Dissemination of results in collaboration with NGOs in the South as a contribution to poverty reduction and improvement of the livelihood of marginalised societal groups

In the field of management capacities

- Consultancy on issues of reform, planning and organization of the educational, scientific and research system
- Support for the improvement of the quality of management and administration (e.g. organizational development, elaboration of a business plan, transparency, teambuilding/teamdevelopment, institutional self evaluation, employment procedures, proposal writing, establishment of international offices, etc.)
- Support for the improvement of the infrastructure of the partner institutions in the South
- Strengthening of capacities to deliver services (consultancies, extension services, etc.)
- Management consultation, integration in local or regional research networks

Requirements

- Demand-driven approach: The proposed activities are based on institutional and societal needs in the Southern country
- Relevance of the partnership for development in the partner country, specifically in relation to the thematic focus of the programme
- Preference of partnerships which demonstrate a relation to the thematic focus of the respective region or country of the ADC
- Gender is systematically integrated in the project plan
- Professional expertise and stated interest in relation to the thematic focus and the capacity development activities of the partnership
- Participatory approaches and well-balanced ownership between the partners
- Result orientation and sustainability
- Letter of intent from the leading management of the partner institutions

Financed costs

a) Preparatory funding for the elaboration of a partnership project

Max. € 15,000 for six months (one time funding)

This full sum will be granted only if a formally complete project is submitted. Should this not be the case, only 50% of the grant will be assigned.

b) Academic partnerships

2 partner institutions: € 50,000 – max. 90,000 per year

More than 2 partner institutions: € 50,000 – max. 130,000 per year

Financed costs

- Staff costs (salaries) for academic and administrative tasks within the project (regular staff costs cannot be included)
- Travel and subsistence costs related to the exchange of teaching, research or management staff and short term exchange of students and lecturers (South-South)
- Equipment and material
- Dissemination (for printing and publishing)
- Other costs
- Overhead costs (7 per cent of the total costs of the project)

Submission/project coordination:

Partner institutions in the eligible countries or in Austria

MASTER'S AND PHD GRANTS

Target group

Students from eligible countries who complete a major part of their Master's/PhD studies at an Austrian university and are involved in an academic partnership or contribute to the development of an academic partnership

Funding policy

Grant for carrying out Master's or PhD studies or parts thereof ("Sandwich Programme" or "Joint Degree Programme") at an Austrian university

Orientation

- Relevance for the home country
- Certificate by the partner institution in the South that the planned scientific project is relevant for local/regional development
- Relevance to the key themes of the Austrian Development Cooperation

Requirements

- Letter of motivation (including the intent to take up an occupation dedicated to the development of the home country)
- Form "Confirmation by the employer": It must be demonstrated that the individual need for academic education serves the specific demands of the institution and the development needs of the home country (e.g. within the development plan of the academic institution), that the applicant is employed and will be reemployed by the institution and that the institution will support the applicant (by cash or in-kind contribution).
- Supervisory consent of an Austrian researcher (in case of a PhD programme)
Confirmation by the Master's programme's management (in case of a Master's programme)
- Curriculum vitae
- Description of the study or research project
- 2 letters of reference by experts of the home institution or university
- Proof of language skills (English and/or German)
- Evidence of previous studies
- Confirmation of enrolment at the university in the home country (for a research stay at a higher education institution in Austria)
- Age limit at commencement of studies in Austria
 - Master's studies: max. 30 years (for women not older than 35)
 - PhD studies: max. 35 years (for women not older than 40)

Financed costs

Master's studies: € 880.- per month (average 24 months)
PhD studies: € 940.- per month (average 36 months)
Travel costs (including field research)
Allowances (German courses, participation in conferences, printing costs)