The aim of the Fact Finding Missions programme is to prepare a long-term, contractually regulated cooperative venture at the level of university faculties, institutes and departments. It involves scholarships for German academic staff delegations undertaking fact finding missions on which they meet potential cooperation partners in other countries. The maximum funding for such a mission (which can take up to 14 days) is EUR 15,000, while reciprocal missions as well as missions to several neighbouring countries may receive up to EUR 20,000 and can take up to 21 days.

The programme is open to all subject areas. German universities are eligible to apply.

Further details are available at https://www.daad.de/fact-finding-missions/
The programme

The aim of the programme, which is funded by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, is to help to strengthen the health sector in each partner country. The long-term objective is to contribute to the sustainable development and creation of high-quality, cosmopolitan universities in partner countries. To achieve this, teaching at the partner universities is to be strengthened in their structures and existing collaborations between the participating universities are to be consolidated. The programme also aims to help German universities to make active partnership contributions to development cooperation and to raise the level of internationalisation at the universities.

www.daad.de/PAGEL

Programme objectives

- Training and further education programmes in the health sector will be offered by partner universities in a way that suits the local context and reflects current scientific knowledge.
- Development-related, subject-specific networks will be set up between the participating universities and institutions.
- Students from developing countries will be prepared for careers in their home countries or regions.
- German universities will acquire expertise in development cooperation.

An example: „Curtailing Infectious Diseases in Mongolia“

Project of Düsseldorf University (Heinrich-Heine-Universität) and the Mongolian National University of Medical Sciences (MNUMS)

Project objectives

- To improve the diagnostics, treatment and prevention of infectious diseases
- To jointly develop curricula in medical microbiology, virology and hospital hygiene
- To develop state-of-the-art microbiological diagnostics and an antibiotic stewardship programme

Measures

- Teaching and further training courses, seminars and laboratory courses
- Networking activities (workshops and conferences)
- Support and training for Mongolian PhD students
- Further training for doctors in infection diagnostics, antibiotic therapy and hospital hygiene

― Infections are among the main causes of death in Mongolia. We have initiated this partnership with MNUMS so that we can enable improvements in the training of medical students and medical professionals. “

- Prof. Klaus Pfeffer, Project Manager, University of Düsseldorf

Joint activities of project partners

- Developing, revising and acquiring relevant teaching and learning materials, consumables, small-scale equipment, etc.
- Events (expert seminars, alumni summer/winter schools in Germany and abroad, etc.)
- Further education and training (exchanges of teaching staff, students, medical clerkships and project stages)
- Train-the-trainer courses for university lecturers

Funding

- German universities at the level of institutes, faculties and departments related to the health sector, university hospitals, institutes for tropical medicine as well as non-university research institutions in partnership with at least one university in a developing country are eligible to apply. Applications for collaborative projects are welcome if headed by a German university. Applicants and cooperation partners must be active university lecturers.
- Funding can be provided in the following instances (through deficit financing):
  - Funding Module 1: University partnership
  - Funding Module 2: Clinical traineeships or internships in a developing country combined with weekend seminars
  - Funding Module 3: Further education courses
- Maximum funding for one package of measures: EUR 480,000 in combination with another funding module up to a four-year funding period

Workshop on “Non-Communicable Diseases in Sub-Saharan Africa” under a project between the University of Heidelberg, CHRESO University in Zambia and the Lighthouse Trust Malawi

“Establishment of Infectological Diagnostic Methods in Hanoi”, a project between the University of Tübingen and the Vietnam Military Medical University

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