



DAAD KIWi

Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst  
German Academic Exchange Service



# Cambodia 2022



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## Current Trends in Scientific Cooperation

Cambodia’s higher education system has changed rapidly in recent years. There are 128 higher education institutions in Cambodia, 48 of which are public and 80 private. That said, in some cases the education they provide is low in quality and not aligned with the needs of the employment market. Higher education institutions in Cambodia are struggling to cope with inadequate funding, as well as suffering from a lack of well-qualified lecturers and teaching staff. They generally offer bachelor’s programmes that usually last four years. Postgraduate study is only possible in a very few cases. Internationalisation is gaining importance at Cambodian higher education institutions. With particular support from the Asian University Network – Quality Assurance (AUN-QA), Cambodia is making efforts to improve the quality of higher education and to standardise its accreditation processes. In addition to the economic dominance of the People’s Republic of China, it is evident that Chinese higher education institutions have a powerful influence in Cambodia.

In the 2020/2021 winter semester, there were 29 Cambodian international students at German higher education institutions. According to the German Rectors’ Conference, as of May 2022 there were seven cooperation partnerships between Germany and Cambodia.

## DAAD Activities

The DAAD’s Hanoi Regional Office coordinates the DAAD’s activities in Cambodia. The DAAD’s funding in Cambodia is focused on supporting early-career higher education lecturers and managers in development-related organisations. It also funds stays for long-term lecturers, higher education cooperation partnerships and maintaining contacts with the (admittedly small) alumni network.



→ 36 funding recipients from Cambodia (2021)  
← 6 funding recipients from Germany (2021)  
**Long-term lectureship:** Royal University of Phnom Penh (RUPP)

Since 2002 the DAAD has funded short and long-term lecturers for the Department of Media and Communication, which was set up in collaboration with the GIZ and the Konrad Adenauer Foundation (KAS) at the Royal University of Phnom Penh (RUPP). The aim is to offer modern training for journalists so as to promote critical, precise and analytical public discourse. The DAAD long-term lecturer is the point of contact for questions on all matters concerning DAAD funding provision. One critical partner for the DAAD is the Goethe-Zentrum in Phnom Penh, which provides a member of staff to support the DAAD’s information activities in the Cambodian language.

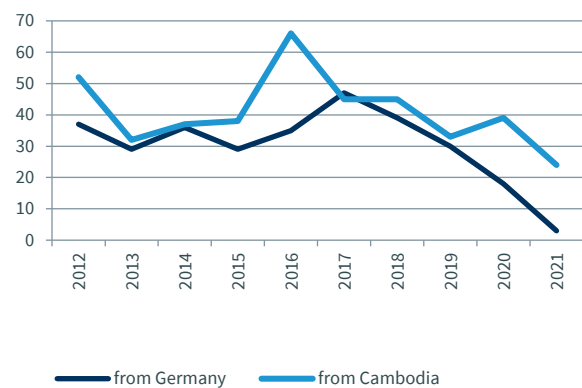
The DAAD offers annual training courses for higher education managers through its DIES programme. Thirteen scholarship holders were funded through the DIES programme in 2021. At the time of writing, two higher education cooperation projects are receiving DAAD funding:

- Eberswalde University for Sustainable Development, UNIQUE forestry and land use GmbH, Germa, Forum anders reisen e.V., honorary professorship & Royal University of Phnom Penh, Royal University of Agriculture Phnom Penh (interdisciplinary), 'Transformation for a Sustainable Future in South-East-Asia' (TranSEA) (2019–2023), other partner countries: Myanmar, Thailand, Vietnam
- Museum für Naturkunde Berlin & Royal University of Phnom Penh (biology), 'BIO-PHIL: Biodiversity Teaching in a Philippine-Cambodian-German Network' (2018–2021), additional partner country: Philippines

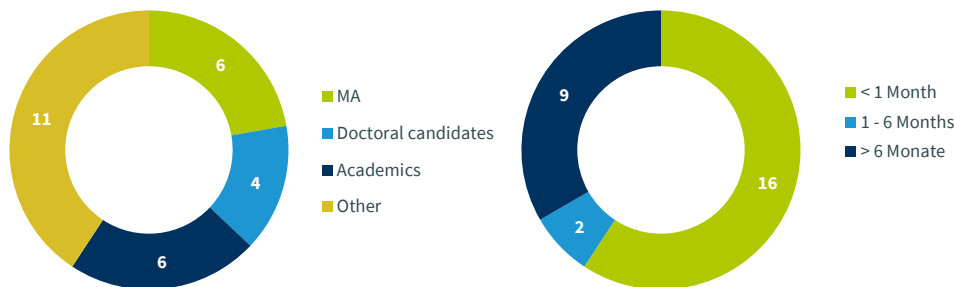
**Selected funding programmes by number of DAAD funding recipients**

Individual funding	Cambodia	Germany
Research scholarships for international doctoral candidates and early-career academics	3	-
In-Country/In-Region Scholarship Programmes	2	-
Project funding	Cambodia	Germany
DIES	13	-
Higher Education Excellence in Development Cooperation (exceed)	1	-
EU	Cambodia	Germany
ERASMUS mobility grants	12	3

**DAAD funding Cambodia 2012–2021 (not including EU mobility programmes)**



**Distribution of DAAD funding recipients 2021 (not including EU mobility programmes)**



**Subject distribution of DAAD funding recipients 2021 (incl. EU mobility programmes)**

