



DAAD KIWi

Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst  
German Academic Exchange Service



## Laos 2022



Contact: [DAAD Centre for International Academic Collaborations](#) → [kiwi@daad.de](mailto:kiwi@daad.de)  
[DAAD Regional Office Hanoi](#) → [daad@daadvn.org](mailto:daad@daadvn.org)

### Current Trends in Academic Cooperation

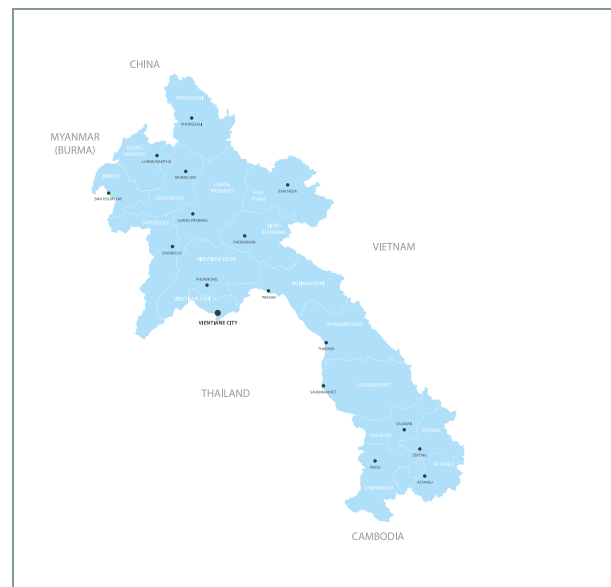
Laos is one of the smallest countries in South East Asia. Its higher education sector is still very young and comprises only five public universities. The National University of Laos (NUoL) is the largest and most important university in the country. It has 27,500 students, 93% of which are on bachelor's degree programmes. NUoL was established in 1995, making it the oldest university in Laos. The other four universities are Champasack University (CU) in Pakse, Souphanouvong University (CU, est. 2003) in Luang Prabang, Savannaketh University (SKU, est. 2009) in the city of the same name in central Laos, and the University of Health Sciences in Vientiane (est. 2007). A total of around 15,000 students are currently enrolled at these institutions. There are a further five colleges of teacher training and 65 private colleges.

The government of Laos is pursuing its Higher Education Reform Strategy 2020 to better prepare the higher education sector to meet the socio-economic demands facing the country in future. As part of the reform programme, NUoL is gaining greater decision-making autonomy. However, close supervision continues to be necessary for the other universities.

In the 2020/2021 winter semester, there were nine Laotian international students at German higher education institutions. According to the German Rectors' Conference, as of May 2022 there were six cooperation partnerships between Germany and Laos.

### DAAD Activities

The DAAD's Hanoi Regional Office coordinates the DAAD's activities in Laos. The DAAD has supported the country's only German department by funding a lectureship at NUoL, which has been occupied since 2022. The DAAD lecturer is the point of contact for questions to do



- 14 funding recipients from Laos (2021)
- ← 9 funding recipients from Germany (2021)

**DAAD Lectureships:** National University of Laos (NUoL)

with DAAD funding provision. The primary focus of the DAAD's scholarship programmes in Laos is to help academically trained teaching staff and university leaders at the country's five universities to improve their qualifications. The DAAD's higher education partnership programmes also support the development of structures at Laotian higher education institutions, particularly the National University of Laos. The DAAD offers annual training courses for higher education managers through its DIES programme. The DAAD also offers annual information events on studying and research in Germany and is represented at the EU's annual education fairs. There are around 600 alumni of German higher education institutions in Laos who have successful careers in academia, business and politics. The alumni have organised the 'Laotian-German friendship association' (LDFG).

At the time of writing, one higher education cooperation project is receiving DAAD funding:

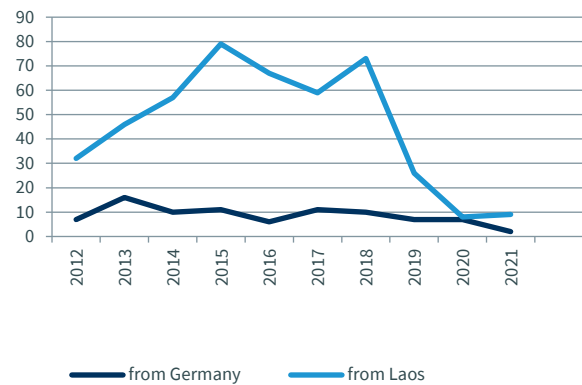
- Technical University of Berlin & National University of Laos: 'Global Center of Spatial Methods for Urban Sustainability' (GCSMUS). Other partner countries: Argentina, Bhutan, Botswana, Brazil, China,

Colombia, Cuba, Egypt, France, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Iran, Kazakhstan, Lesotho, Malawi, Morocco, Mexico, Mongolia, Namibia, Netherlands, Nigeria, Peru, Serbia, Sri Lanka, South Africa, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

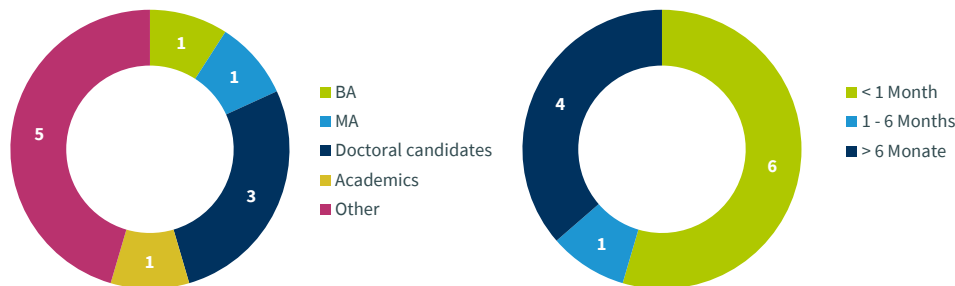
**Selected funding programmes by number of DAAD funding recipients**

Individual funding	Laos	Germany
Research scholarships for international doctoral candidates and early-career academics	1	-
Development-Related Postgraduate Courses (EPOS)	1	-
Project funding	Laos	Germany
DIES	5	1
Higher Education Excellence in Development Cooperation (exceed)	1	-
EU	Laos	Germany
ERASMUS mobility grants	5	7

**DAAD funding Laos 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)**

