



DAAD KIWi

Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst
German Academic Exchange Service



DAAD GLOBUS Country Report short version

Malaysia 2024

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→ 129 funding recipients from Malaysia (2023)
← 148 funding recipients from Germany (2023)

Regional Office: Jakarta

DAAD Lecturer: University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur

Current trends in academic exchange

Malaysia stands as one of the foremost education hubs in South-East Asia. It leads in the internationalisation of higher education, being among the first countries in the region to promote the influx of international students and establish foreign university branches.

The Malaysian higher education landscape is diverse and largely English-speaking. Following substantial development over the past two decades, the country had, as of 2023, 20 public universities, 36 polytechnics, 105 community colleges and 388 private institutions of higher education. These include 63 private universities and 10 branch campuses of foreign universities. Research is a central focus for public universities, with significant resources allocated to this area. Since 2007, five public universities have been designated as “research universities” and receive special funding: Universiti Malaya, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia, Universiti Sains Malaysia, Universiti Putra Malaysia, Universiti Teknologi Malaysia.

Owing to substantial governmental investments in research and development, Malaysia is an attractive destination for cooperation in applied sciences. According to the German Rectors' Conference, there are currently 129

academic partnerships with Germany (as of November 2024). In the winter semester of 2023/2024, 836 Malaysian nationals studied in Germany.

DAAD Activities

The DAAD supports research projects and international academic mobility with Malaysian partners, including a DAAD-funded Lecturer for German language and culture at the University of Malaya in Kuala Lumpur.

In 2023, the DAAD funded a total of 277 individuals, including 148 from Germany and 129 from Malaysia. A significant majority (227 persons) were supported through project funding, which has been significantly expanded in recent years. The programme *Higher Education Dialogue with the Islamic World* is of particular relevance. Among individual funding programmes, research scholarships for doctoral students and early-career researchers remain particularly popular.

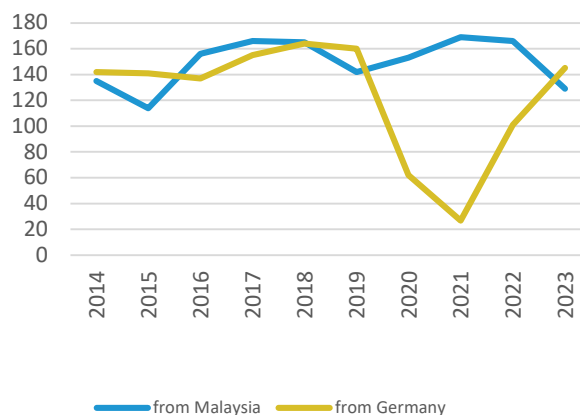
Following a lecture tour in 2023, the DAAD organised an information visit to Malaysia and Indonesia from 28 February to 2 March 2024. The visit explored the potential that collaborations with South-East Asian partners offer German Universities of Applied Sciences (UAS). During

their stay, the 20 participating Heads of German UAS engaged in four intensive matchmaking rounds with local counterparts. Additional lecture tours and information visits are planned for the coming years.

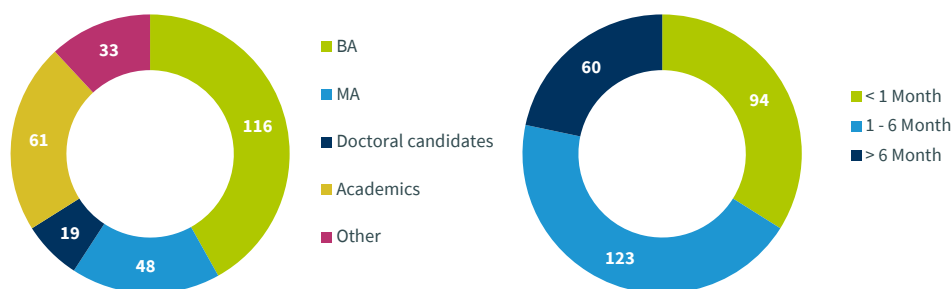
Selected funding programmes by number of DAAD funding recipients 2023

| Individual funding | Malaysia | Germany |
|--|----------|---------|
| Research grants for foreign doctoral candidates and early-career researchers | 6 | - |
| Internationalisation of universities of applied sciences (UAS) | - | 17 |
| Project funding | Malaysia | Germany |
| Increasing mobility of students from German universities PROMOS | - | 59 |
| International Study and Training Partnerships (ISAP) | 17 | 13 |
| EU | Malaysia | Germany |
| ERASMUS mobility grants | - | 3 |

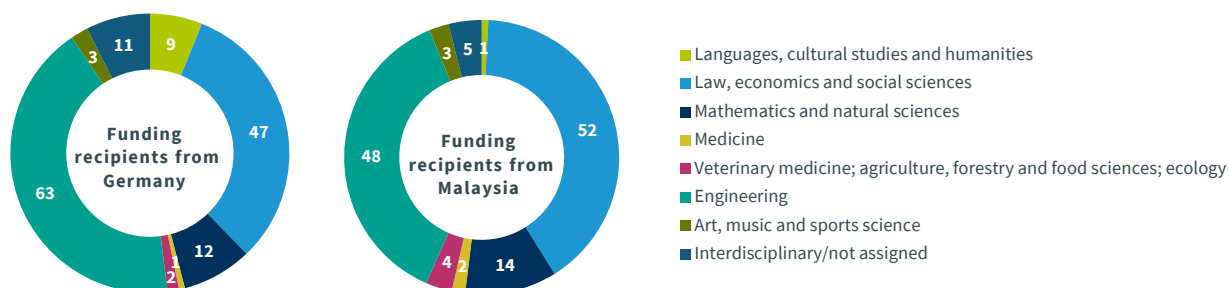
DAAD funding recipients Malaysia, 2014-2023 (excl. EU mobility grants)



Distribution of DAAD funding recipients 2023 by academic status and funding period (incl. EU mobility grants)



Subject distribution of DAAD funding recipients 2023 (incl. EU mobility grants)



Sources: MoHE - 2023, Federal Statistical Office 2024, DAAD statistics (2023 funding data), © Atelier Hauer + Dörfler/moloko_vector/shutterstock.com, CIA WFB

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