



In-Country/In-Region Scholarship Programme Southeast Asia

**Call for Master and PhD Scholarship Applications 2024
at the Southeast Asian Regional Center for Graduate Study and Research in
Agriculture (SEARCA)**

Funded by the
Federal Ministry for
Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)

Application Closing Date in the DAAD Portal
(for all candidates): 31.1.2024



INDIVIDUAL
FUNDING

DAAD – SEAMEO SEARCA NRM 2024

PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES

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The programme aims at fostering strong, internationally oriented higher education systems in Southeast Asia with the capacity to contribute to sustainable development. For this purpose, scholarships for development-related Master’s and doctoral studies are awarded to individuals who plan to pursue a career in teaching and/or research at a higher education institution in Southeast Asia.

By training future academic and professional leaders, the programme contributes to the following **long-term impacts**:

- Qualified professionals’ involvement in the solution of development-related problems in Southeast Asia
- Graduates strengthening education and research in Southeast Asia
- Structural strengthening and regional networking of partner institutions and partner universities

To achieve these long-term impacts, the following outcomes have been formulated as programme objectives:

Programme objective 1: Graduates have qualified to take over responsible positions in their or for their region of origin

Programme objective 2: The participation of women and underprivileged groups is reinforced

Programme objective 3: Organizational, financial and personal capacities of partner institutions are strengthened

As part of the „In-Country/In-Region Scholarship Programme“, DAAD offers scholarships for PhD and Master studies. The programme is funded by the German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and aims at university staff in the first line, without neglecting the public sector demand of academically trained personnel.

The target group for scholarships are graduates from Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao, Myanmar, Malaysia, Philippines, East Timor, Thailand or Vietnam with a first academic degree if applying for a Master’s programme, who want to pursue Master’s courses, or with a Master’s degree if applying for a doctoral programme who want to pursue PhD courses, either

- in their home country

(**In-Country scholarships** are aimed at students who study in their home country or in the country for which they have a residence permit.)

- or -

- in another Southeast Asian country

(**In-Region scholarships** are aimed at students who want to participate in a study programme in a country of their home region.)

It has been agreed upon that DAAD cooperates with SEAMEO SEARCA by offering **up to 12 In-Country/In-Region scholarships for PhD and Master's studies** at the partner institutions of SEARCA (UPLB, KU, UPM, IPB or UGM) for the intake 2024.

The awarding of scholarships will be subject to the provision of funds.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

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Applicants

- have successfully completed generally a three-year university degree (Master candidates) or a two-year university Master degree (doctoral candidates) with above average results
- clearly show motivation and strong commitment;
- must have thorough knowledge of English language (IELTS 6.0 or above);
- have generally completed their last university degree not more than 6 years ago at the time of application;
- must be nationals of Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao, Myanmar, Malaysia, Philippines, East Timor, Thailand or Vietnam
- should generally be a) staff member of a public university, b) or a candidate considered for teaching or research staff recruitment, c) or from the public sector and/or d) Alumni of the DAFI-programme.

Female applicants, refugees with recognized refugee status and candidates from other less privileged regions or groups are especially encouraged to participate in the programme.

Please note: If you have already received a Master's scholarship from the DAAD, further Master's funding from the DAAD is not possible.

Please note: The partner institutions of SEARCA (UPLB, KU, UPM, IPB or UGM) might have additional requirements for admission to the university.

ELIGIBLE FIELDS

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The In-Country/In-Region Scholarship Programme supports studies in subject areas with strong relevance to national development.

The scholarships at SEARCA are available in the following fields:

- UPLB: Environmental Science (ENS)
- KU: Sustainable Land Use and Natural Resource Management (SLUSE)
- IPB: Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences (NRES)
- UPM: Environmental Biotechnology/Environmental Engineering/Environmental System and Modeling
- UGM: Planning and Management of Coastal Area and Watershed (MPPDAS)/Geography

PLACE OF TENURE FOR A MASTER'S OR PHD DEGREE

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Southeast Asian Regional Center for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture (SEARCA), Los Banos, Philippines

DURATION AND COMMENCEMENT

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The duration for Master's studies:

- The scholarships are awarded for the duration of the standard period of study for the chosen programme (up to a maximum of 24 months). Please state the entire period for which you wish to apply for a scholarship in your application. For example, if you are planning a 2-year degree programme, you must directly indicate two years as the desired scholarship duration in your application. After the first year of study, your academic achievements will be assessed in a further funding procedure. If this shows that you will successfully complete your programme within a reasonable period of time, the scholarship will continue as planned.

The duration of the PhD programme

- is generally three years

The scholarship usually begins at UPBL in September, at KU in July, at UPM in October, at IPB in August and at UGM in July of the following year.

Please note that the maximum duration of the scholarship is based on the time that is left until the scholarship holder has reached the regular period of studies in that programme; i.e., if you apply for a DAAD scholarship starting in your second year of studies of a three-year programme, the maximum duration of the scholarship will be two years.

The standard period of study and the start date are based on the Affiliate Agreement between the SEARCA and the DAAD.

Please note: if you arrive later, the duration of your scholarship will be respectively shortened.

As a first step, all applicants must submit a complete application for the programme via the DAAD Portal.

Please be aware of the DAAD's application deadline as well as SEARCA's deadline.

The application process for DAAD scholarships contains the following steps:

1. Register on the portal:
2. Log in to the portal
3. Carefully read the instructions on how to apply in the portal
4. Submit your application via the portal by the deadline indicated on the cover page of this document (31.01.2024)

Remember to check that your application is complete and meets DAAD requirements before submitting! Otherwise your application cannot be considered.

DAAD will conduct a formal review of the applications received via the DAAD portal only, according to the DAAD criteria.

Regardless of this first step, applicants must at the same time apply for admission at SEARCA using the contact details and procedure prescribed by the institution. **The institution sets its own deadline for the admission process.** Please inform yourself in plenty of time about the application process at the host institution.

In a final selection organized by the DAAD, applications that have met both the admission requirements at the host university (and the university's rank in the pre-selection) and the DAAD's formal criteria are evaluated by an independent selection committee (international university teachers and experts from German and foreign universities as well as alumni). The independent selection committee evaluates the applications based on the submitted documents, taking into consideration the pre-selection ranking of the institution. Areas evaluated include academic performance and quality, extracurricular activities, motivation, and relevance of the research topic (if applicable).

The DAAD reserves the right of final selection.

Application for a Master's Degree: Mandatory documents to be submitted (in either English or German) for the DAAD scholarship application:

- DAAD application form (available on the DAAD portal) duly filled in and submitted according to the outlined 31.01.2024
- Curriculum vitae, including a list of publications (if applicable) if not otherwise possible without a signature
- One recommendation letter by university teachers (stamped and signed)
- Letter of admission for the host *Wählen Sie ein Element aus.*(this can be subsequently submitted before the scholarship begins if it is not available at the time of application)
- Certified copies of university degree certificates including transcripts (if available, including a grading scale for the final university degree and if available, information on the recognition of the university degree certificates in the host country)
- Language certificate (at least IELTS 6.0 or equivalent)
- Letter of motivation (1-2 pages with personal, social motivation as well as your reference to the studies and a possible Master project)
- Copy of the passport or, if not applicable, a copy of National Identification Card (mandatory for an application for a scholarship)
- Mandatory for an application for a scholarship: Only for research-based Master programmes:
 - a timetable (if applicable: mentioning the planned research stay in Germany, see "Additional benefits")
- Mandatory for an application for a scholarship: Only for course-based Master programmes:
 - a semester schedule and
 - a time table
- If applicable, information on the UNHCR registration as refugee

Optional:

- Additional documents that might be relevant for your application (e.g. proof of internships, proof of employment).

Your application is only valid if you submit all the required documents to the DAAD portal on time. Incomplete applications cannot be considered. You are responsible for ensuring that your applications are complete. **If you do not have documents such as a letter of admission at the time of application, please mention and explain this at an appropriate place in the application.**

Please note that the scholarship only becomes effective as soon as the Admission Letter (this can be subsequently submitted before the scholarship begins

if it is not available before) from the university is issued and once a proof (e.g., airline ticket, letter from supervisor or coordinator, admission test) has been submitted that you are on site at the host university to begin your studies. This must be submitted to the DAAD portal as soon as possible and is part of a complete application (this can be subsequently submitted before the scholarship begins if it is not available before).

APPLICATION DOCUMENTS FOR A PHD DEGREE

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Application for a PhD Degree: Mandatory documents to be submitted (in either English or German) for the DAAD scholarship application:

- DAAD application form (available on the DAAD portal) duly filled in and submitted according to the outlined 31.01.2024
- Curriculum vitae, including a list of publications (if applicable) if not otherwise possible without a signature
- Two recommendation letters by university teachers stamped and signed). One of the recommendation letters for PhD could be issued by an employer
- Letter of admission for the host university(this can be subsequently submitted before the scholarship begins if it is not available at the time of application)
- Certified copies of university degree certificates including transcripts (if available, including a grading scale for the final university degree and if available, information on the recognition of the university degree certify-cates in the host country)
- Language certificate (at least IELTS 6.0 or equivalent)
- Letter of motivation (1-3 pages with your personal, social motivation as well as your reference to the studies and a PhD project)
- Copy of the passport or, if not applicable, a copy of National Identification Card (mandatory for an application for a scholarship)
- Detailed and precise PhD proposal (8-10 pages)
- Detailed work and timetable with detailed information outlined with months and dates as well as information on when the last exam will take place (if applicable: mentioning the planned research stay in Germany, see “Additional benefits”)
- Please note that a detailed and comprehensive proposal is necessary for the assessment. Concept notes will not be accepted.
- Abstract of the proposal on one page (please include name and title of the proposal)

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Declaration of acceptance from the academic supervisor or a commitment letter from the host institution that a supervisor will be assigned • If applicable, information on the UNHCR registration as refugee <p>Optional:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional documents that might be relevant for your application (e.g. proof of internships, proof of employment). <p>Your application is only valid if you submit all the required documents to the DAAD portal on time. Incomplete applications cannot be considered. You are responsible for ensuring that your applications are complete. If you do not have documents such as a letter of admission at the time of application, please mention and explain this at an appropriate place in the application.</p> <p>Please note that the scholarship only becomes effective as soon as the Admission Letter (this can be subsequently submitted before the scholarship begins if it is not available before) from the university is issued and once a proof (e.g., airline ticket, letter from supervisor or coordinator, admission test) has been submitted that you are on site at the host university to begin your studies. This must be submitted to the DAAD portal as soon as possible and is part of a complete application (this can be subsequently submitted before the scholarship begins if it is not available before).</p>
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SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION

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Applications must be submitted via the [DAAD portal](#).

Deadline: 31.01.2024

Applications submitted through other channels or to other authorities will not be considered.

The DAAD portal closes at 24.00 hrs. Central European Time (CET or CEST) on the last application day.

SCHOLARSHIP FUNDING

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The scholarship covers:

Benefits	Pace of Payment	Amount
Tuition Fees*	Usually twice after receipt of invoice by DAAD	
Study and research allowance	annually	460 EUR (Master's Degree) 920 EUR (PhD Degree)

Printing allowance	once towards the end of scholarship	400 EUR (Master's Degree) 800 EUR (PhD Degree)
Monthly Scholarship (Accommodation, Food etc.)	monthly	500 EUR (Master's Degree) 650 EUR (PhD Degree)
Travel allowance (In-Region only)	usually twice (beginning/end of scholarship)	<i>The flat rate travel allowance will be specified in the letter of award.</i>
Insurance (In-Region only)		

*Please note that in some cases not all fees and costs that are mentioned on the official fee structure of the host institution can be covered by DAAD in full, e.g. if the agreement with the funding organization prevents DAAD from funding certain items in the fee structure or if items that are included in the fees are supposed to be covered through the individual scholarship benefits. DAAD will transfer the fees directly to the host institution.

PAYMENT OF SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

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The DAAD will endeavour to transfer/pay out the first monthly payment as quickly as possible after your arrival/after the beginning of your scholarship. Processing the first transfer of funds may take some time, especially if you are able to set up your bank account only after your arrival in your destination country. To be able to cover the costs which arise until you receive your first scholarship payment, we recommend that you bring a financial reserve with you.

Payments generally cannot be made in advance/prior of the scholarship start date and the commencement of studies at the host institution. Furthermore, no additional benefits that are not listed in this call for applications can be granted.

Please note that the travel allowance for In-Region scholarship holders will only be transferred along with the first scholarship rate, i.e. after the arrival in the host country.

The scholarship will either be disbursed by the host institution, the German Embassy or will be paid directly to the scholarship holder's bank account. Further details will be announced after admission to the scholarship programme in the Letter of Award.

ADDITIONAL BENEFITS

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DAAD In-Country/In-Region scholarship holders in the framework of **research based Master programmes or PhD programmes** are also

a) encouraged to apply for a **short-term research stay in Germany** for 3 up to 6 months.

Please note:

- **The short-term research stay in Germany should preferably be announced in the application for the regular scholarship** and can only be awarded if the necessary financial means are available.
- If you would like to apply, please note that the funding period for a short-term research stay in Germany is part of the In-Country/In-Region programme and the regular study period of the programme may not be exceeded by the short-term research stay in Germany, this must be included in the regular study period of the In-Country/In-Region programme. Further information will be provided upon request via the DAAD Portal after you have received your In-Country/In-Region scholarship.

The short-term research scholarship includes:

- a monthly scholarship payment for living costs
- health/accident/personal liability insurance
- a flat-rate travel allowance

DAAD In-Country/In-Region scholarship holders are also invited to apply for different Summer Schools in Germany (four weeks).

All further details regarding additional benefits and the additional application processes will be provided after admission to the scholarship programme. Please note that all short-listed applicants might be asked to participate in a multi-wave monitoring survey to gather data on different academic and career development aspects. Participation is voluntary.

CONTACT AND COUNSELING

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Enquiries related to the DAAD Scholarship

DAAD Contact Person:

Heike Schädlich, E-Mail: schaedlich@daad.de

Christopher Bock, E-Mail: bock@daad.de

Robert Bude, E-Mail: bude@daad.de

Website: <https://www.daad.de/in-country-in-region>

Enquiries related to the general admission and the study programme

SEARCA:

Contact Person: Dr. Maria Cristeta Cuaresma

E-Mail: mcnc@searca.org



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