



In-Country/In-Region Scholarship Programme South East Asia

**Call for Scholarship Applications 2023
at the Southeast Asian Regional Center for Graduate Study and Research in
Agriculture (SEARCA)
[Scholarships Master's or doctoral studies]**

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

Application Closing Date in the DAAD Portal
(for pre-selected candidates only):
January 6, 2023



In-Country/In-Region – SEARCA 2023/2024

PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES

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The programme aims at fostering strong, internationally oriented higher education systems in South East Asia with the capacity to contribute to sustainable development. For this purpose, scholarships for development-related Master's or doctoral studies are awarded to individuals who plan to pursue a career in teaching and/or research at a higher education institution in South East 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 South East Asia
- Graduates strengthening education and research in South East 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 and postgraduates from Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao, Myanmar, Malaysia, Philippines, East Timor, Thailand or Vietnam with a first academic degree if applying for a Master's programme, or with a Master's degree if applying for a doctoral programme who want to pursue Master's or 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 South East Asian country

(In-Region scholarships are aimed at students who want to participate in a study programme in a country of their home region (here: South East Asia /outside their home country/in the country for which they do not have a residence permit)).

It has been agreed upon that DAAD cooperates with the Southeast Asian Regional Center for Graduate Study and Research in Agri-culture (SEARCA) by offering **up to 16 In-Country scholarships/30 In-Region scholarships for PhD and Master studies** at the following partner institutions of SEARCA for the intake 2023/2024.

- University of the Philippines Los Baños (Philippines)
- Kasetsart University (Thailand)
- Universiti Putra Malaysia (Malaysia)

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;
- have thorough knowledge of the language of instruction;
- have generally completed their last university degree not more than 6 years ago at the time of application;
- must be nationals or permanent residents of Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao, Myanmar, Malaysia, Philippines, East Timor, Thailand or Vietnam;

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

Scholarships are initially granted for one year and can be extended to a maximum of the regular period of study upon receipt of an application for extension. Scholars must demonstrate satisfactory progress before an extension is granted.

Please note: The partner institutions of SEARCA 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:

- University of the Philippines Los Baños
 - Agricultural Economics (Master/PhD)
 - Agronomy/Plant Breeding/Genetics (Master/PhD)
 - Environmental Science (Master/PhD)
- Kasetsart University
 - Agricultural Resource Economics (Master/PhD)
 - Tropical Agriculture (Master/PhD)
 - Environmental Science (Master/PhD)
- Universiti Putra Malaysia
 - Agricultural Economics (Master/PhD)
 - Plant Science/Plant Pathology (Master/PhD)
 - Environmental Engineering (Master/PhD)

PLACE OF TENURE

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- University of the Philippines Los Baños, Laguna, Philippines
- Kasetsart University, Bangkok, Thailand
- Universiti Putra Malaysia, Selangor, Malaysia

DURATION AND COMMENCEMENT

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The duration

- of the Master programmes is generally two years and is usually starting in August
- of the PhD programme is generally three years and is usually starting in August.

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 agreement between the host network and the DAAD.

APPLICATION AND SELECTION PROCEDURE

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The application process contains two steps. Please be aware of the DAAD application deadline for pre-selected candidates as well as SEARCA's deadline.

First step:

Applicants must apply for their studies at SEARCA using the contacts and the method that is prescribed by the institution. **SEARCA has set its own deadlines.**

SEARCA Deadline: October 31, 2022

Please find the direct link to the online application here:

<https://ischo.searcaapps.org/v2>

Background information on the DAAD-SEARCA collaboration and details about the DAAD In-Country/In-Region scholarship are found here:

<https://www.searca.org/daad-scholarship>

SEARCA will screen, pre-select (according to DAAD selection criteria) and shortlist the applicants. A detailed report consisting of the shortlisting procedure, the entire list of applicants, the ranked shortlist and the shortlisting panel members will also be availed to DAAD. The ranked shortlist will contain preferably triple (at least double) the number of scholarships that have been attributed to the institution.

DAAD reserves the right of final selection.

Second step:

SEARCA will provide the shortlisted candidates with the link to the DAAD portal. Only the pre-selected candidates are asked to log into the DAAD portal, register themselves and submit a DAAD application. **DAAD Deadline: January 6, 2023**

APPLICATION DOCUMENTS

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

- DAAD application form duly filled in (available in the DAAD portal)
- Curriculum vitae, including a list of publications (if applicable).
- Recommendation letter(s) by university teachers (Master 1, PhD 2)
- 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
- Letter of motivation (Master's applicants only)
- Language certificate (at least IELTS 5.0 or equivalent)
- Copy of the passport

- If applicable, information on the UNHCR registration as refugee
- A semester schedule (if applicable, please add the information how and when a planned research stay in Germany would fit into the semester schedule; see “Additional benefits”) (Master’s applicants only)

- **Additional documents only for PhD programmes:**

- Declaration of acceptance from the academic supervisor or a commitment letter from the host institution that a supervisor will be assigned
- Detailed and precise PhD proposal (8-10 pages)
- Detailed work and timetable (if applicable: mentioning the planned research stay in Germany, see “Additional benefits”)
- Abstract of the proposal on one page (please include name and title of proposal)

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 recommendation letter and/or 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 from the university is issued. 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).

SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION

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Applications have to be submitted via the DAAD portal.

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*	Twice a year	<i>The regularly charged amount will be covered.</i>
Study and research allowance	annually	460 EUR (Master) 920 EUR (PhD)
Printing allowance	once towards the end of scholarship	400 EUR (Master) 800 EUR (PhD)
Monthly Scholarship (Accommodation, Food etc.)	monthly	500 EUR (Master) 650 EUR (PhD)
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		If your insurance is not covered by your host institution, the DAAD will pay you an insurance allowance within the regular and regional costs of insurance.

*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 SEARCA.

PAYMENT OF SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

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The DAAD will endeavour to transfer/pay out the first monthly payment to you via SEARCA as quickly as possible after your arrival/ after the beginning of your scholarship. 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.

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.

ADDITIONAL BENEFITS

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DAAD In-Country/In-Region scholarship holders are also

a) encouraged to apply for a **short-term research stay in Germany** for 2 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.

The short-term research scholarship includes:

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

b) 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: Ms. Henrike Schmitz

Section Asia, Pacific – ST 34

German Academic Exchange Service

Postfach 200404, 53134 Bonn

E-Mail: henrike.schmitz@daad.de

Website: <https://www.daad.de/incountry-inregion>

Enquiries related to the general admission and the study programme

Southeast Asian Regional Center for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture (SEARCA)



Contact Person: Dr. Maria Cristeta Cuaresma, Program Head

SEARCA, College, Los Baños, Laguna, 4031, Philippines

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