Call for Proposals

Seed Funding for Cooperation with the Global South 2020

Dear colleagues and scientific staff,

The Technische Universität Berlin launches the call for applications for Seed Funding for Cooperation with Partners in the Global South 2020.

After successful implementation of the pilot call in 2019, the second round of the call is open for applications. The Seed Funding for Cooperation with Partners in the Global South seeks to attract and support researchers at the TU Berlin in initiating and further strengthening new and/or existing research projects and collaboration with partners in the Global South responding to global challenges. Applicants can submit their short project ideas and apply for funding in order to initiate or deepen their collaboration with partners in the Global South (max. 10,000 EUR). The activities funded by TU Berlin should aim at the preparation of one or several proposals for third party funding. We particularly welcome proposals that involve junior researchers at TU Berlin and at partner Universities in the Global South.

Collaborations and project sketches which address the SDGs as well as TU Berlin’s Strategy on Global Responsibility are of paramount interest under this TU funding scheme:

In line with the overall vision of the Technische Universität Berlin for Global Responsibility and taking into account its commitment for sustainable and excellent research and innovation, the Seed Funding for Cooperation with Partners in the Global South is available for TU-researchers who plan to initiate a project and to develop a project proposal, with special regards to objectives such as capacity building, joint collaboration and development of research and teaching with Partners in the Global South, as well as the creation of knowledge/ or transfer of knowledge and technologies.

With regards to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development of the United Nations, the Technische Universität Berlin would like to encourage and support research initiatives of TU-researchers that respond to the urgent need of sustainability and international transdisciplinary collaboration. The 17 Sustainable Development Goals of the international community (SDGs) outline several global challenges, such as clean energy, climate change, industry and innovation, responsible consumption, resource management, and many more which correspond to the expertise of researchers at the TU Berlin.
Applications will be examined and selected by an academic commission, headed by Prof. Dr. Angela Ittel, Vice President for Strategic Development, Junior Scholars, and Teacher Education at TU Berlin.

We are looking forward to receiving your applications (application deadline 6th April 2020).

Objective
Encourage the initiation of new collaborative projects with the Global South and with a focus on sustainability, capacity building, joint collaboration, development of research and teaching, knowledge creation and the integration of junior researchers. The seed funding promotes and encourages transdisciplinary research on global challenges and sustainable solutions, as well as networking and exchange between researchers of TU Berlin and partners from the Global South (Higher Education Institutions, research centers, NGOs or public institutions; companies can be included as associate partners).

The activities funded by TU Berlin should aim at the preparation of one or several proposals for third party funding. We particularly welcome proposals that involve junior researchers at TU Berlin and in the Global South.

What can be funded?
- Short research visits to partners and,
- Short research visits of partners to TU Berlin,
- Preparatory workshops for the development of project ideas/ the elaboration of the project proposal.

The applicant must indicate, how the activity for which she/he applies, will result in a project proposal for a third-party funding application.

Eligible costs
Per applicant, a maximum of 10,000 EUR will be funded. The total pool of funding available under this call is 30,000 EUR.

The applicant’s budget shall be calculated according to the Federal Travelling Expenses Act (Bundesreisekostengesetz).

Staff costs are not eligible.

Who can apply?
Researchers of TU Berlin aiming to apply for a third-party-funded project and who want to initiate a research project with the Global South with special regards to sustainability and subjects related to the SDGs.

The proposal must be submitted by a TU Berlin Chair. Projects involving junior researchers are particularly welcome.

Candidates who are selected for the seed funding are expected to use the funding for the preparation of a project proposal to be submitted to a third-party funding.
What’s the time frame?
Call for application: 6th February – 6th April, 2020
Information event on funding schemes
for cooperation with Partners in the Global South: 4th March 2020, 10-12.00, FH 604

Application deadline: 6th April 2020

Notification: Candidates will be notified at the end of April 2020

Funding and Implementing Period: end of April 2020 until November/December 2020

Selection Criteria
- Proposal for academic cooperation with one or several partners in the Global South
  (reference: OECD DAC-list of ODA recipients). Depending on the project proposal, partners can be
  Higher Education Institutions, research centers, NGOs or public institutions. Companies can be included as
  associate partners, however, travel expenses from company staff are not eligible for funding. The partners’ interest
  in the collaboration should be demonstrated by means of a letter of support.
- Proposal responding to one of the Sustainable Development Goals
- Proposal for third party funding as final goal
- Academic excellency
- Proposals involving young researchers are particularly welcome

Application Documents
- Application form, duly completed and signed by the applicant (TU Berlin Chair)
- Letter of support from partner institution in the Global South

Evaluation Process
Applications will be examined and selected by an academic commission, headed by Prof. Dr. Angela Ittel, Vice President for Strategic Development, Junior Scholars, and Teacher Education at TU Berlin.

Please send your application until 6th April 2020 to: ip@international.tu-berlin.de

For further questions, do not hesitate to contact the Department of International Affairs.

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