

**First Joint Call for Proposals by the DAAD and NSF
on
Project Based Personnel Exchange Programmes (PPPs)**

Programme

The 'Project-based Personnel Exchange Programme'(PPP) is a bilateral research promotion programme which is the result of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) concluded in April, 2018 (better at least include Month) between the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) and the National Science Foundation, Sri Lanka.

Aims

The basic aim of the programme is to strengthen the collaboration between Sri Lankan and German research groups, which are working jointly on a particular scientific project. The programme 'Project-based Personnel Exchange' envisages, in this connection, financial support for operational mobility only. Particular emphasis is thereby accorded to academic training and specialization of young researchers.

Target Group

- Scientists/ researchers, university academics, post-doctoral researchers and doctoral students.
- University academics, scientists/researchers and post-doctoral researchers from German and Sri Lankan universities and those in permanent positions at public funded research institutes are eligible to apply.
- It is specially encouraged to include young "early career researchers". This means a PhD student enrolled at a participating university or a research institution, a researcher who has had a PhD or a Research Masters degree awarded within five years before the date of the application, or a researcher who received his or her award of that degree more than five years before the date of application, but who due to career interruptions such as career responsibilities, has had less than equivalent of five cumulative years of research experience.
- Projects which do not include 'early career researchers' on both sides will not be considered.

Project Proposal

- **The pre-requisite for application is a concrete and precise scientific research project proposal of high quality, on which academics from both countries jointly and complementarily work on.**
- The research group on each side should consist of a project leader and up to two doctoral students or post-doctoral researchers. The total number of participants in the project on both sides should not exceed three (03) from each side.

- The basic funding for the project (personnel and material costs on both sides) must be secured by own funds or by third party funding.
- Application shall be considered by NSF, Sri Lanka and DAAD only if a parallel application has been submitted simultaneously by the Sri Lankan and German partner to NSF, Sri Lanka and DAAD respectively.
- Only those applications that have been submitted by both partners to NSF, Sri Lanka (by Sri Lankan partner) as well as to DAAD (by German partner), complete in all respects, shall be considered further for evaluation. Late, incomplete and inaccurate applications, in form, shall be summarily rejected.
- The project proposal must be clearly described in, the concrete tasks that would be undertaken by the German group and those by the Sri Lankan partner.
- The scientific contents of the proposal must be common from both sides.
- Each project would run for 02 years.
- In case the applicant leaves his/her institution before the expiry of the official validity of the project, its continuity must be safeguarded, for instance through a written confirmation by the grantee institution.

Funding

- **The financial support under this scheme is available only to support exchange visits** to the partner institution, which are undertaken during the course of the project-related collaboration. These allowances cover all the expenses related to mobility and hospitality.
- Short term stays of scientists and doctoral students are eligible for funding.
- The maximum duration of stay for scientists is 30 days per visit per year and for doctoral students it is 50 days per visit per year.
- The project description must clearly mention the criteria used for selection of the scientists/ research scholars to be supported.
- Within the validity of the project duration, a total of 4 visits by the German participants and 4 visits by the Sri Lankan participants shall be funded subject to the condition that not more than one visit is permitted during a year for a particular project participant.

- The funds can be utilized only to support mobility of the project participants officially included in the project document.
- The number and duration of the exchange visits under the project must be balanced in number and days on both sides. The reciprocity of visits under the project has to be strictly ensured from both sides.
- DAAD shall bear the expenses related to international travel (including medical insurance, visa fee, and domestic travels) and the daily allowance, accommodation and the domestic travel costs of the members of the German research group to visit their Sri Lankan partner institution; and the local hospitality for members of the German research group visiting Sri Lanka.
- NSF, Sri Lanka shall bear the expenses related to international travel (including medical insurance, visa fee, domestic travels) and the daily allowance, accommodation and the domestic travel costs of the members of the Sri Lankan research group to visit their German partner institution.
- **It is understood that the expenses incurred in connection with the project which go beyond the scope of funding provided by DAAD and NSF, Sri Lanka (basic office set-up, procurement of equipment, consumables, documentation, photocopies & printing and personnel costs) will be borne by respective Institutions.**
- The following shall not be funded:
 - Projects of the Sri Lankan-German Cooperation in Research and Technology that pertain to the same topic, which are already being funded by another mode, and also include personnel exchange
 - Pure skill enhancement projects
 - Bilateral collaboration, which form only a part of an otherwise multilateral collaboration funded through other routes
 - Language courses
 - Individual scholarships
 - Project-related ancillary expenses (computing time, material expenses, documentations, photocopying and printing expenses)
 - Expenses towards setting up basic facilities such as office space and equipment, as well as staff expenses
 - Pure seminar events
 - Conference participations
- The applications shall be evaluated both sides by independent selection committee. The final selection shall be made jointly by NSF, Sri Lanka and DAAD.

Funding

- Five (05) projects will be selected for joint funding.
- The maximum funding limit for each project by each funding agency for a total project period of 02 years would be Euro 6,000/-

Selection Criteria

- ✓ Qualification and experience of the research teams
- ✓ Project plan: methodology, approach, strategy, structure and documentation
- ✓ Level of originality and innovation
- ✓ Social and developmental added value for Sri Lankan-German collaboration i.e. showing that collaboration produces better scientific results than would emerge from research carried out by Sri Lankan and German side alone
- ✓ Purpose of cooperation among groups
- ✓ Exploitation and dissemination of results
- ✓ Contribution to fostering the careers of young researchers/early career researchers
- ✓ Contribution to socio- economic development

Important dates

- Opening of the 1st Joint Call between DAAD and NSF, Sri Lanka on Project Based Personal Exchange Programmes (PPPs): 14th June, 2018
- Closing date: 30th August, 2018
- Applicants from Sri Lanka should submit their applications to: daadppp2018@nsf.gov.lk
- The contact person of the NSF, Sri Lanka: Mr. S.M.A.W. Anuruddha, Head, International Liaison Division, National Science Foundation (011-2675842)