

## Call for Proposals



### **Seed Funding for Cooperation with the Global South 2024**

The Technische Universität Berlin launches the call for applications for Seed Funding for Cooperation with Partners in the Global South 2024.

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. EUR 7,000). 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 outlines which address the Sustainable Development Goals (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 exchange 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, quality education, global health, responsible consumption, sustainable 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.-Ing. habil. Stephan Völker, Vice president for research and appointments.

We are looking forward to receiving your applications (**application deadline 24 March 2024**).

### **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.

### **Further information on funding opportunities for cooperation with partners in the Global South**

Information on external and internal funding opportunities can be found on the [website of the Department of International Affairs](#).

An **information event** on funding schemes for cooperation with partners in the Global South will be offered by the Research and Technology Transfer Department and the Section International Projects on **Thursday, 21 March 2024, 14:00-17:00**, via WebEx. Please [register for participation](#). The presentation of the previous information event (2023) is available for [download](#).

### **What can be funded?<sup>1</sup>**

- Short research visits / exploratory trips to partners and,
- Short research visits / exploratory trips of partners to TU Berlin,
- Preparatory workshops for the development of project ideas/ the elaboration of the project proposal (formats: in person, hybrid, or online).

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

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<sup>1</sup> Funded travel can only take place if pandemic regulations are favourable for travelling at the given moment in time. In case of TU Berlin policy or restrictions by the Foreign Office, nominated individuals will be asked to postpone their travel plans. Please also note that TU Berlin cannot fund any occurring costs for quarantine of staff or partners.

### Eligible costs

The eligible costs and the applying regulations are thoroughly explained in the Terms of Reference. In the following, you can find a summary. Please refer to the Terms of Reference which rule the funding for details.

Per applicant, a maximum of EUR 7,000 will be funded. The total pool of funding available under this call is EUR 30,000.

The applicant's budget for travel shall be calculated according to the Federal Travelling Expenses Act ([Bundesreisekostengesetz](#)).

For international guests within Germany, the following monthly/daily rates are applicable: Scientific staff (daily rate: EUR 89 /day up to 22 days; monthly rate: EUR 2,000 / from 23 days upward per month), PhD candidates (daily rate: EUR 54 /day up to 22 days; monthly rate EUR 1,200 /from 23 days upward per month).

Catering costs for workshops or events may be funded in accordance with TU Berlin's rates and guidelines (cf. [Themen A-Z \(tu.berlin\)](#) > "Bewirtschaftungsrichtlinien und -kosten").

Per diems and catering for the participation in online activities 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: 21 February – 24 March 2023
- Information event on funding schemes for cooperation with partners in the Global South: Thursday, 21 March 2024, 14:00-17:00, via WebEx. Please [register for participation](#).
- Application deadline: Sunday, 24 March 2024, close of business
- Notification: Candidates will be notified end of April 2024
- Funding and Implementing Period: May until November 2024

### 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)
- [Budget form](#) (please use template provided)
- Letter of support from partner institution(s) in the Global South

### **Evaluation Process**

Applications will be examined and selected by an academic commission, headed by Prof. Dr.-Ing. habil. Stephan Völker, Vice president for research and appointments.

**Please send your application until 24 March 2024 to: [ip@international.tu-berlin.de](mailto:ip@international.tu-berlin.de)**

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

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