

*German **E**gyptian Mobility Programme for Scientific **E**xchange and **E**xcellence Development (GE-SEED)*

General Information and Guidelines for Proposals

Deadline for submission: 28th May, 2025 - 2:00 pm (Cairo time)

GE-SEED Call for the Academic Year 2026/2027

With a view to intensifying interaction and scientific cooperation between Egyptian and German Scientists / Institutions, the **Science, Technology & Innovation Funding Authority (STDF)** and the **German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD)** jointly extend support for the exchange of scientific visits through the jointly funded **German Egyptian Mobility Programme for Scientific Exchange and Excellence Development (GE-SEED)**.

Thus, the programme is quite literally to be considered as SEED money for further collaborative research.

Aim of the programme

GE-SEED aims at supporting bilateral mobility between Egyptian and German scientific teams with special emphasis on young scientists (Master and PhD students) and within the framework of a jointly submitted research project for a period of up to two years. The main goal of this programme is to encourage partnerships between both sides and enhance collaboration and technology transfer.

Prerequisites

Faculty members, Scientists and Academics belonging to Universities and Research Institutes should form a project team headed by a Principal Investigator (PI). Those having permanent positions in the above-mentioned institutions can apply as PIs. **Teams should not exceed five members.**

A complete project proposal (in terms of content, names of team members on both sides, ... etc.) for academic / scientific cooperation must be submitted by the German PI to the DAAD Bonn Portal (www.mydaad.de) and by the Egyptian PI to the website of the STDF (www.stdf.eg) both in the prescribed format available on the websites.

The project proposal should contain **the objectives, technical details, methodology, expected outputs and achievable goals** of the project, the biography of the PI, a list of his/her relevant publications during the last 5 years and a list of other projects, national and international, implemented by him/her etc.

Application Requirements on the Egyptian side:

Creating an account on [STDF's website](#), filling the required information, and uploading **One application file**, which consists of the following documents:

- Cover page
- Research project
- CVs of all Egyptian and German team members
- Gantt chart showing the timeframe for conducting the project tasks/activities
- Publication list of the Egyptian and German PIs
- Endorsement letter: signed & stamped by the president of the Egyptian PI's institution (university/research centres)
- Acknowledgement form: signed & stamped by the president of the Egyptian PI's institution (university/research centres) and the PI of the project.
- Signed Ethical Declaration

N.B. Application requirements on the German side and the relevant templates are available on the [DAAD-website](#) under the announcement of the programme "**Programm des Projektbezogenen Personenaustauschs** "

All incomplete applications will be considered ineligible and rejected.

Project duration

- Mobility grants will be awarded within the framework of a research project running for a duration of up to two years.
- Total duration of visits by senior scientists should not exceed **1 month per year**, whereas total duration of visits by junior scientists should be within the range of **3 to 6 months per year**, the table in the funding section explains the allowances according to the duration of stay.
- In all cases, the mutual visits of the academics/scientists should be justified in terms of number, duration, expenses and purpose of visit.

Eligibility and Project participants

For both the German and Egyptian partners, this programme is open for publicly funded as well as private universities and research centres. Applicants from both sides should be affiliated to any of the above-mentioned entities.

Please note the following:

- A concrete and sound research proposal must be submitted; all requested documents must be submitted (such as ethical committee approval).
- The PI must be a Ph.D. holder.
- On the Egyptian side, only Egyptian researchers are eligible for a mobility grant to travel to Germany. Also, the researchers must be affiliated to an Egyptian research institution (universities/research centres).
- More than one application in the same call, team members or PIs during the same funding period are not permitted.
- In cases where a team/team member has been previously awarded a GE-SEED grant, he/she may apply for a new grant through the GE-SEED Programme **only after the completion of his/her previously funded project**. In this case, **a report of the success of the previous project** has to be submitted together with the new application to be considered.
- The quality of the project is one of the main criteria for being accepted, nevertheless please note that the involvement of young scientists will be given preference, if applicable.
- A plagiarism check will be applied to all proposals. Accordingly, the proposal must be submitted in a readable PDF format (i.e. not scanned), to facilitate plagiarism checks.

It is important to highlight that

the technical responsibility of the research project remains at the German and Egyptian PI; however, the financial responsibility of the programme would remain at the DAAD and STDF for the German and Egyptian sides, respectively.

The following types of proposals **shall not be considered**:

- Already existing collaborative projects where travel and living expenses are financed by some other source of funding.
- Purely individual visits, training programme(s), or study purposes.
- Organisation of Seminars / Workshops or participation in a Conference / Congress.

Also, the following items/expenses are not covered by this funding programme:

- Purchase of equipment, infrastructure, workspaces and office machines etc.
- Project-related incidental costs (for example: bench fees, staff or running costs, costs for computer time, materials purchases, documentation, photocopying, printing, domestic travel, consumables or other expenses)

Timeline of the programme:

- Deadline for application: 28th of May 2025
- Pre-selection procedures: from Mid-June to end of September 2025
- Final selection procedures: October 2025
- Final selection results: April 2026
- Start of the projects: May 2026
- End of the projects: April 2028

Funding

Grants will be offered only towards travel and living costs within the framework of a well-defined and approved research project. For the Egyptian PI, the STDF will bear the travel cost as well as the daily allowance during the stay at the German research institution (including overseas medical insurance) between the place of work of the scientists/students in Egypt and the place of work in Germany.

It is expected that primary financing for the collaborative research project, including personnel costs, is already available or will be obtained from other sources of funding.

The total funding requested from the Egyptian and the German side, respectively, must not exceed 15.000 EURO per project per year and it will be distributed as follows:

For Egyptian Scientists:

Senior and post-doctoral scientists:

<i>Period</i>	<i>Allowance covering living and accommodation expenses</i>
up to 15 days	140 € per day
15-30 days	100 € per day

- **575 EURO** will be granted as travel allowance.

Junior scientists (Master and PhD candidates):

<i>Period</i>	<i>Allowance covering living and accommodation expenses</i>
3-6 months	1400 € per month

- **575 EURO** will be granted as travel allowance.

Monitoring

- The Egyptian and German PIs will submit annual progress (on the activities carried out) and financial reports to the STDF and DAAD, respectively, at most 2 months after the end of each year. The reports will be assessed internally (on the Egyptian side and the German side independently). Funding for the following year depends on availability, the timely submission of these reports, success of the project and available budget.
- Egyptian research team members will also be required to submit a trip report (both financial and technical) after each visit conducted.

The research teams are strongly encouraged to publish at least one co-authored manuscript in a relevant peer-reviewed international journal (Scopus indexed) with an acceptable impact factor, with acknowledgement of the funding bodies STDF and DAAD. Publishing such a manuscript will considerably increase the possibility of obtaining further STDF funding.

Application procedure

Proposals in a **prescribed format** are to be submitted by the German PI to the DAAD Bonn Portal (www.mydaad.de), and by the Egyptian PI to the STDF, Egypt (www.stdf.eg). **Only applications submitted by the two PIs with all necessary documents will be considered.** Proposals will be evaluated by DAAD and STDF on the basis of scientific merit, need for co-operation and the composition of project teams. The final decision will be made jointly by the two parties.

Applications received after the deadline will not be considered.

Contact and Consulting

Egyptian side (STDF)

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German side (DAAD)

Please refer to the DAAD-Website: [Programm des Projektbezogenen Personenaustauschs \(mit verschiedenen Ländern\) - DAAD](#)