



## ASA Academia

Would you like to improve the integration of sustainable development at your university or institution of higher education implementing specific projects? Do you want to network and position yourself as a renowned research partner for sustainable development? Are you looking for young students from Germany or a country in Africa, Asia, Latin America or South-Eastern Europe to support you with your international research projects? You can submit project proposals for the 2020 ASA Programme until 15 September 2019!

### What is the ASA Programme?

**The ASA Programme is a learning and capacity-building programme dedicated to development education.** It is addressed to young people who want to understand global interdependencies, who ask critical questions and who want to foster a fair world. Mutual learning and responsible social action for sustainable development and fair global interaction are at the heart of the programme.

The ASA Programme is an offer of Engagement Global and is primarily financed by the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development of Germany (BMZ). It is co-funded by eight German states: Baden-Wuerttemberg, Bavaria, Berlin, Bremen, Hamburg, North Rhine-Westphalia, Saxony and Hessen.

## How the programme is run

ASA Academia (former ASA-University Cooperation) is an offer of the ASA Programme in cooperation with academic education and research having its focus on innovative research and applied science for sustainability. Universities, institutions of higher education and their partners from the scientific community and civil society are invited to propose future projects for the *basic* and *global* formats.

The project is at the heart of the programme for ASA participants. They spend six months working within the project, first three months in Germany followed by three months at a partner institution in Africa, Asia, Latin America or South-Eastern Europe. Participants gain skill sets dealing with global interdependencies, power structures and racism as well as project and conflict management skills during seminars lasting several days. Afterwards participants reflect on their learning experiences and develop ways to integrate them in their everyday life and in future situations for their engagement. They return to universities and institutions of higher education as change agents, organise events, hold lectures, write project-related Bachelor's and Master's theses and, in so doing, contribute their experience and impulses towards education and research.

## Who are the ASA participants?

### *Basic format:*

People between 21 and 30 years who study in Germany are eligible to apply to the ASA Programme. German citizens studying abroad and interested students whose Bachelor's degree was earned within the last 18 months are also eligible. A team of two ASA participants residing in Germany complete both project phases and participate in the ASA seminars together.

### *Global format:*

An international team is made up of two ASA participants from Germany and two from the respective partner country in an African, Asian, Latin American or Southeast European country, who participate in both project phases and ASA seminars together. Participants from the partner countries are between 21 and 35 years and are in direct contact with the project partner in the partner country.

## Project examples

- Research on sustainable afforestation in Costa Rica's tropical regions
- Renewable energies and the sustainable city in Thailand, the Philippines and Vietnam
- Development of a prediction model for famines in Brazil with data analysis methods
- Development and introduction of a management study programme in Germany and Senegal

*“ASA Sustainability Connects [author's note: title of the pilot project behind ASA Academia] provides universities with a tailor-made development policy upgrade: The practical relevance and the programme's network, universities and their partners receive clear added value that anchors their education and research activities in the context of global sustainable development through the seminars in the ASA cycle, thus enabling synergies and creating new international perspectives.”*

— Christoph Grammer, Baden-Wuerttemberg State Ministry

## Contribution of the ASA Programme

- If requested, we can advise you on how to elaborate and develop your project proposal.
- We advertise the programme to applicants in Germany, manage the application procedure and select engaged participants for your project in a tried-and-tested selection process.
- We support the learning and preparation process of participants through ASA seminars lasting several days, where the participants receive the close support of tutors. The seminars deal with topics such as team building, project management or intercultural communication, raise awareness for privileges and racism, and encourage participants to reflect on global interdependencies and their own learning processes.
- ASA in the *global* format: We help the participants from the partner countries to obtain visas for 90-day stays.
- Participants receive a partial scholarship and insurance coverage from the ASA Programme. The ASA Programme will also cover the costs for the ASA seminars and proportionate travel costs incurred in the project phase(s).

*“Applied research is very important for an SME that develops models in the field of sustainable tropical agriculture and forestry. At the same time, our pioneering work in science is an exciting research topic. The university cooperation helps us align these interests and finance research that promotes sustainable economic activity and exhibits direct practical relevance.”*

— Simon Mader, Querdenker GmbH, ASA project partner

## Your contribution

- You develop the project proposal jointly with your partner organisation. The ASA Programme will be happy to assist you.
- Following a pre-selection process by the ASA Programme, you select the participants from Germany.
- You support the participants with travel formalities (e.g. visa application).
- You support the project team professionally and organisationally in the preparation, implementation and follow-up of the project phase in your country. You also provide the required material resources. The ASA Programme cannot provide any assistance for this, neither financial nor material.

The following additional conditions apply to ASA in the *global* format:

### **Partner institutions in a country in Africa, Asia, Latin America or South-Eastern Europe:**

You are responsible for acquiring and selecting applicants in your country.

### **Partner institution in Germany:**

You support the acquisition and selection of applicants in Germany. You also assist participants from the partner country with travel formalities (e.g. booking of flights, visa application), provide accommodation, support communication during their stay and co-fund the stay of participants in Germany (see Financing).

## Financing / Scholarship by the ASA Programme

### **Project phase in Germany**

Participants from Germany and from the partner countries receive up to €822 per month during the three-month project phase in Germany. In ASA in the *global* format the ASA funds are only part of the

financing of the project phase in Germany. The involved partner institution in Germany must cover any additional costs, including the flight costs for participants from the partner countries.

### **Project phase in a country in Africa, Asia, Latin America or South-Eastern Europe**

Participants from Germany receive a partial scholarship from the ASA Programme of €1,800 on average to cover the costs of living in the partner country as well as a travel allowance during the three-month project phase. And for the *global* format: Participants from the partner country receive remuneration of a total €600 on average for the project phase in their own country.

## ASA Programme calendar

**15 September 2019:** Deadline for submission of your project proposal

**27 September 2019:** Project selection by the ASA Programme

**20 November 2019 to 10 January 2020:** Publication of selected projects on the ASA website; interested and eligible young professionals and students can apply

**January and February 2020:** Selection of participants

**April to June 2020:** Participants attend two seminars in Germany; first contact between participants and partner institutions

**April to July 2020:** Three-month project phase in Germany

**Between July 2020 and January 2021:** Three-month project phase at the partner institution in a country in Africa, Asia, Latin America or South-Eastern Europe.

**February and March 2021:** Participants review the project phase(s), exchange their views about future engagement opportunities and find ways to establish networks.

**More information at [www.asa-programm.de](http://www.asa-programm.de)**

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## Contact

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