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The ASA Programme at a glance

Is your company, association, institution or higher education institution pursuing social, ecological and/or economic sustainability goals? Would you like to provide young people campaigning for equitable and sustainable development with insights into your work in the context of a specific project, and enter into exchange with them? Then you have until August or respectively September to propose a project for the 2024 ASA Programme.

The ASA Programme is an exchange and scholarship programme in the field of development policy. It is aimed at young people who want to understand global interdependencies, pose critical questions and campaign for a more justice world. In addition to a project phase lasting several months and covering aspects of sustainable development, the programme includes seminars and methods associated with global learning.

The ASA Programme is provided by Engagement Global gGmbH and is mainly funded by subsidies from the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). The ASA Programme is moreover facilitated by support from the federal states of Baden-Württemberg, Bavaria, Berlin, Bremen, Hamburg, North Rhine-Westphalia and Saxony.

How the programme is designed

Seminars

Seminars lasting several days both before and after the project phase are a fixed element of the ASA Programme. They impart development policy expertise and methodology relating to group, educational and project activities. In the spirit of global learning and education for sustainable development (ESD), the participants shed light on their own role (in the project) and learn about possible courses of action regarding global challenges.

Project phase

In three- or six-month projects, which the ASA Programme aims to realise together with you in countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America or Southeast Europe as well as in Germany, the participants learn about new aspects of their professional field of work. At the same time they contribute to specific project goals. Depending on your needs as a partner institution, they for instance carry out an analysis, organise trainings and workshops or support your public relations work. During the project phase exchange and knowledge transfer occur in both directions.



Digital projects – especially in the format “global” – can also be proposed for the cohort 2024. In 2024, however, ASA projects are supposed to take place mainly physically. For physical projects, you will have a chance to indicate whether a project could be realised digitally as well in the event of security risks.

Reflection and areas of learning for former participants

Building on the impetus from the project, former participants are invited to help shape the programme and continue their professional development. They are often involved on a long-term basis, for example as team leaders at the seminars or in the selection of participants in the ASA programme. This teaches them to think about the aspects of sustainability and global justice in many areas of their lives, and to be active advocates thereof; be it in everyday life, their profession, or in their sociopolitical participation.

What we're offering

The project phases in the context of the ASA Programme make a contribution to the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The programme is divided into three elements. These differ according to the spheres of activity of the partner institutions from different areas of global sustainable development (civil society, business and academia). They also vary depending on the programme format. The two possible programme formats, basic and global, delineate the composition of the participant teams. We advertise places for participants from Germany, manage the application process, and conduct a selection procedure that has been tried and tested over many years.

ASA NGO | Cooperation with non-governmental organisations and state-run development cooperation institutions

Basic format: the participants mainly based in Germany implement a project at a partner institution from a country in Africa, Asia, Latin America or South-Eastern Europe for three months.

Global format: participants from a country in Africa, Asia, Latin America or South-Eastern Europe form a team with participants from Germany. The project is jointly implemented by the partner institutions from Germany and the partner country. The project phase lasts six months and takes place three months in Germany and three months in the respective partner country.

ASApreneurs | Cooperation with the economy

Basic format: participants from Germany deal with socio-ecological sustainability in economic processes during a six-month project phase – an initial three months in Germany, then the same amount of time at a partner institution based in Africa, Asia, Latin America or South-Eastern Europe.

Global format: in a project phase also lasting six months, participants from Germany and from a country in Africa, Asia, Latin America or South-Eastern Europe collaborate in a project dealing with sustainable management.

ASA Academia | Cooperation with academic education and research

Basic format: the project phase in an international research project lasts six months and initially takes place in Germany. This is followed by three months at one of the project's partner universities or institutions in a country in Africa, Asia, Latin America or South-Eastern Europe.

Global format: Participants from Germany and from a partner country in Africa, Asia, Latin America or Southeast Europe attend the entire six-month project phase together as a team.



We provide special fact sheets with further information on the special features of the various programme elements. They also contain more details about the funding and scholarships that the ASA Programme awards to participants.

Who are the ASA participants?

ASA participants are committed young people between 21 and 30 years who have completed their dual/school-based vocational training or are currently studying in Germany. They are not experts of development cooperation. Instead, they all look forward to concrete tasks in the project phase, sufficient professional support, their own room for creativeness and the possibility of personal growth while critically considering global issues.

Participants from an African, Asian, Latin American or South-East European country who can participate in the ASA Programme's *global* format are up to 35 years old and are mostly in direct contact with the partner institution from the respective partner country, where they also submit their application.

Reasons for joining the ASA Programme

The ASA Programme promotes collaborative learning, experience and interaction in a networked and adaptive world. Together with you and other partners from civil society, academia and business, we seek to empower our participants to make their contribution towards tackling global challenges in line with the United Nations 2030 Agenda.

- As a partner institution you profit from qualified and committed young people who support your project. They are eager to learn from you while contributing their own experiences, skills and ideas.
- Exchanging ideas concerning global issues with other participants can provide a significant impetus for your future engagement. After an ASA participation you usually remain committed to sustainable development, and to promoting an understanding of global interdependencies in society.
- You also benefit from the ASA Programme's worldwide network.
- You position yourself as an organisation fit for the future and an attractive employer.
- Offering a joint project with another organisation can contribute to an extension and consolidation of your international cooperation and partnerships.
- You are welcome to ask participants for a detailed report after the conclusion of the project.

Upon request, we will be happy to advise you on the development and elaboration of your project proposal.

The deadline by which we expect your project proposal

- ✓ **15 August 2023:** deadline for submission of project proposals by partner institutions that have already implemented a project in the ASA NGO basic and/or ASA NGO global formats.
- ✓ **15 September 2023:** deadline for submission of project proposals by new partner institutions in the ASA NGO basic or ASA NGO global programme elements and for all project proposals relating to ASApreneurs and ASA Academia.

How to contact us

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