



Austrian Partnership Programme in Higher Education and Research for Development



APPEAR - Austrian Partnership Programme in Higher Education and Research for Development

APPEAR is a programme of the Austrian Development Cooperation (ADC), which aims to implement the support strategy for higher education and research for development within academic institutions in the ADC's priority countries and key regions. The results presented in this booklet cover the phase of the programme running from 2010 to 2014 in which the ADC's southern priority countries and key regions took part.

APPEAR encourages professionals and higher education institutions in the target countries and in Austria alike to share their knowledge and experiences with each other, to design innovative projects and to improve the general standards within higher education, research and management.

The programme has two components which place an emphasis on academic partnerships.

Component 1

 Academic Partnerships in higher education, research and management in order to strengthen the institutional capacities of higher education institutions within the eliqible countries Preparatory Funding to support institutions that do not yet have well-established links to jointly plan and draft an APPEAR project proposal

Component 2

 Scholarships for Master's and PhD studies in Austria for students and academics from eligible countries

This booklet presents some of the programme's achievements attained during the phase of the programme running from 2010 to 2014 with a particular focus on the quantitative results.

A comprehensive overview of this phase of the programme including contributions on behalf of the programme management, the ADC, its project partners and the scholarship holders is featured within the publication "APPEAR - Participative knowledge production through transnational and transcultural academic cooperation" edited by the Head of the Programme, Andreas J. Obrecht.



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APPEAR follows five basic principles in order to achieve its overall goal:

- Participatory approaches
- Cultural open-mindedness
- · Practically and empirically oriented approaches
- Gender sensitivity
- · "Bottom-up" and demand-driven approaches

APPEAR funds well-designed collaborative and innovative projects as well as Master's and PhD scholarships which are preferably embedded into existing APPEAR academic partnerships that respond to the needs and demands that have been identified in the respective countries and within the partner institutions in particular. At least two institutions – one from the eligible countries and one from Austria – must be involved in the partnership. The institution that coordinates the project is responsible for reporting and accounting and this can either be in the eligible country or in Austria. If the proposed activities require more than two partners in order to be successfully implemented and carried

out, a partnership network can also be set up and research institutions that are not located in the eligible countries can be integrated into the project.

APPEAR strictly follows a demand-driven approach, whereby the demand for the project has to be demonstrated by the partners involved. It also fosters a participatory approach towards education and research.

APPEAR is not interested in one-sided knowledge transfer. Some of the preconditions that have to be met in order for a partnership to receive support include a respect for different methodological and empirical approaches, for different epistemological and cultural systems and for different modes of interaction and ways of interpreting results.

APPEAR incorporates the perspective of gender relations into all of its processes, activities and measures it undertakes, thereby making gender mainstreaming a crucial aspect of the programme. Gender dimensions are regarded as an implicit part of a contemporary discourse in science and research.

Overview of participating countries

The maps on the following three pages show the extent to which academic institutions from eligible countries participated in the phase of the programme that took place between 2010 and 2014.

Information is provided on the total number of applications submitted and on selected projects.

Information on selected projects is given for both funding schemes separately, i.e. for Prepartory Funding and for an Academic Partnership.

These infographics depict the number of applications submitted and projects selected.

- Applications submitted: refers to all applications - for Preparatory Funding and an Academic Partnership
- Preparatory Funding / Academic Partnership: refers to either a project that was implemented solely in this country or to a regional collabo- rative project that was implemented in this respective country as well as in other countries
- Involvement of alumni/ scholarship holders: refers to the participation of former or current scholarship holders in both, applications for Preparatory Funding and the Academic Partnership









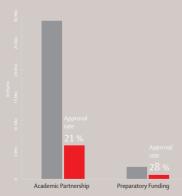
Demand for higher education cooperation

There was (and indeed there still is) an extremely high interest in and demand for such a programme, by and from Austrian higher education institutions and academic institutions in the eliqible countries.

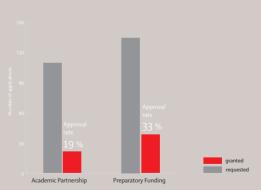
By the end of 2014, within the framework of four calls for applications, some 134 applications for Preparatory Funding were submitted, of which 44 were selected. A further 109 applications for the funding of an Academic Partnership has led to a further 21 projects being selected for funding.

These tables illustrate the demand for research for development and for North-South cooperation in the field of higher education, as well as the approval rate in terms of funding granted with respect to the total amount of applications.

Requested vs. granted funds



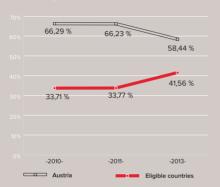
Requested vs. granted proposals



Dimensions of project coordination

Distribution of project coordinator positions between Austria and the eligible countries



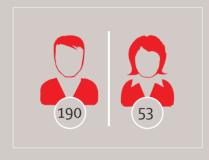


In the first call for applications some 67 % of the applications submitted had an Austrian coordinator and only 33 % had a coordinator coming from an institution in one of the eligible countries.

By the time it came to the fourth call for applications at the end of 2013, the percentage of projects with Austrian coordinators had declined to 58 %, all the while the percentage of project coordinators from the global South had risen accordingly to 42 %. Within 4 years the number of coordinators from the global South had increased by 10 %.

Distribution by gender of project coordinator positions

* based on the total number of applications submitte



Incorporating the perspective of gender relations into all of its processes, activities and actions – gender main-streaming – is a key facet of the APPEAR programme.

The programme's structural / organisational body refers to gender mainstreaming as a fundamental principle and it systematically promotes the advancement of women with the aim of guaranteeing the equal participation of women in all of the activities carried out under the auspices of the project.

Scholarship holders per country of origin

Scholarships for Master's and PhD students are of intrinsic value for a collaborative programme within the field of higher education. They allow universities to increase the number of qualified staff in their ranks and this thereby helps to contribute to the improvement in the quality of teaching, research and management within their institution.

The integration of research activities by scholars taking part in an APPEAR partnership contributes to reaching the objectives of the respective individual projects.

In the phase of the programme running from 2010 to 2014 a total of 60 scholarships for students and professionals from eligible countries were funded. Additionally, a further 68 scholarships from the former ADC North-South-Dialogue Scholarship Programme were integrated into the APPEAR programme.

* the graphic shows only the scholarships that were granted during the APPEAF programme phase running between 2010 - 2014





The involvement of scholarship holders & alumni in applications

The involvement of alumni or scholarship holders in AP-PEAR applications is beneficial on many levels and for several reasons.

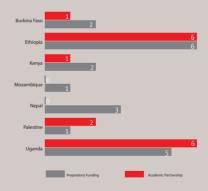
Former or current scholarship holders act as multipliers and are beneficial to the chances of undertaking further collaborative projects with universities.

Furthermore, students and academics get the opportunity to acquire hands-on experience in research and collaborative programmes and to contribute, using their scientific knowledge, to research for development.

The involvement of scholarship holders / alumni per funding scheme



Number of scholarship holders / alumni in accepted applications per funding scheme



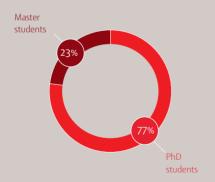
Distribution of scholarships

Since APPEAR's inception a total of 128 scholarships have been funded, of which 68 were integrated from the previous ADC North-South-Dialogue Scholarship Programme.

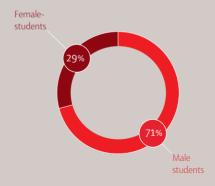
Out of the 60 scholarships that were granted during the phase of the APPEAR programme running between 2010 and 2014 some 39 were individual scholarships, and 21 scholarships were linked to APPEAR projects. The majority of scholarships were granted to PhD students.

APPEAR is strongly committed to achieving a gender balance, and women are particularly encouraged to apply.

Distribution of PhD and Master's scholarship holders



Distribution of scholarship holders by gender



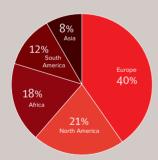
Facts on reviewing process

All proposals for an Academic Partnership are reviewed against a set of predefined criteria by two external international peer reviewers.

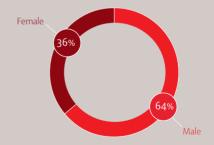
The application reviewers are chosen on the basis of their subject specific knowledge of the topic areas and in line with the regional context covered by the proposals.

Distribution of application reviewers by region

* refers to their current place of residence and not to their region of origin



Distribution of application reviewers by gender





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