

PROGRAMME

Building alliances for development in higher education and research

Forum of the Cooperation for Sustainable Development in Higher Education Group (S-DHG)

12 - 13 November 2024

Brussels (Belgium)

Overview

About S-DHG

The [Forum of the Cooperation for Sustainable Development in Higher Education Group](#) (S-DHG) is an annual gathering of prominent agencies, international organisations and associations dedicated to supporting and funding higher education in international cooperation.

The objectives of the S-DHG Forum are to share expertise and experiences, to enhance cooperation among funding and implementing agencies of capacity development and cooperation programmes, and to provide a networking platform for relevant resource organisations in the higher education and research sector. Initially DHG (former name) was set up to bring the Paris Declaration (2005) into practice, hence the reference to the aspect of donor harmonisation. However, at the first meeting in Scheveningen, the Netherlands in 2010 that objective proved to be unrealistic, as most educational cooperation programmes had a strong reciprocal benefit policy. However, the ambition to prevent overlap in activities, to find ways to collaborate with each other, and to share expertise and experiences continued to guide the annual meetings since then. The organisation of the forum rotates between the different participating organisations, as no permanent structure or secretariat was established.

S-DHG Forum 2024

In **2024**, the S-DHG Forum gathers in **Brussels, Belgium on 12-13 November**. This 14th gathering will be convened by the **German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD)**, the **European Commission**, **VLIRUOS** and the **Association of Commonwealth Universities**.

In the course of two days, the theme “**Building alliances for development in higher education and research**” will be explored. **Day 1** will focus on the role of higher education and research in the **Global Gateway strategy of the European Union**. Together with partners from different sectors and regions as well as the wider public, we will discuss how, together, we can shape international cooperation and development. The day will be concluded with an evening reception and poster session that will offer networking opportunities between S-DHG members and the public.

Day 2 will focus on the S-DHG network development and address the topic of **higher education in emergencies**. We will discuss ways to provide academic support in these contexts and take a deep dive into academic support for Ukraine. In addition to this lead topic, Day 2 will offer various opportunities to share practical knowledge and learn from one another. The day will start with interactive breakout sessions/a world café, where participants can bring in their own questions or ideas and co-develop them with other S-DHG members. During the day, there will be several workshop sessions addressing Global Gateway in practice, regional developments, higher education in emergencies, monitoring and evaluation, equal partnerships, and other practical aspects of the S-DHG member activities.

Tuesday, 12 November 2024

Venue: *SQUARE Brussels, Coudenberg 3, 1000 Brussels*

13.00 h **Registration**, welcome coffee and networking

14.00 h **Official welcome**,

Moderator Day 1: Michael Hörig, Director DAAD Brussels Office

- Dr Kai Sicks, Secretary General, German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD)
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14.10 h **Keynote address: Unpacking the higher education and research component of the Global Gateway**

- Martin Seychell, Deputy Director-General for International Partnerships, European Commission
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14.30 h **Panel session: Team Europe in practice**

- Samu Seitsalo, Director, International Affairs, EDUFI, Finland
- Marianna Knirsch, Deputy Head of Section 103 – Education, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, Germany
- Ulla Næsby Tawiah, Director, Danida Fellowship Centre, Denmark
- Anne Weyembergh, Vice-Rector for External Relations and Development Cooperation, Université Libre de Bruxelles – CIVIS University Alliance, Belgium
- Peter Maassen, Professor in Higher Education Studies, University of Oslo, Norway

Moderator: Erica Gerretsen, Director Human Development, Migration, Governance and Peace, DG INTPA, European Commission

16.00 h Coffee break

16.30 h **Panel session: A Global Gateway for Higher Education and Research? Perspectives from partner countries and regions**

- Advanced Infectious Diseases Research and Training, Africa – Europe Clusters of Research Excellence (AID CoRE):
Peter Kojo Quashie, Deputy Director, West African Centre for Cell Biology of Infectious Pathogens, University of Ghana
Professor Steffen Borrmann, University of Tübingen
- European Union Mobility Programme for Myanmar (EMPM):
Sebastian Gries, Project Leader
Stefan Hase-Bergen, Senior Responsible Officer EMPM, DAAD
- EU-ASEAN Sustainable Connectivity Package - Higher Education Programme (SCOPE-HE):
Rodora T. Babaran, Director of Human Development, ASEAN Socio-Cultural Community Department of the ASEAN Secretariat
Peter van Tuijl, Director, Nuffic Southeast Asia

Moderator: Elizabeth Colucci, Director of International Projects, OBREAL

18.00 **Poster session and evening reception**

hosted by VLIRUOS

Melanie Schellens, Director Governmental Cooperation, Directorate-General for Development Cooperation (DGD), Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Belgium

Kristien Verbrugghen, Director VLIRUOS

Wednesday, 13 November 2024

Venue: [SQUARE Brussels, Coudenberg 3, 1000 Brussels](#)

Open to **S-DHG** member institutions and invited guests only

09.00 h **Opening of Day 2**

Moderator Day 2: Dr Caroline Felske, Head of the Sustainability Office, DAAD

Start in plenary, followed by 4 parallel World Café sessions

09.15 h **World Café**

- Room 310
▪
Higher education & research management and professional development: Towards a Team Europe Approach
 Elizabeth Colucci, Director, OBREAL
 Marina Larea, Senior Policy Expert, OBREAL
 Jan Kennis, Global Network Manager, VLIRUOS
 - Room 311
▪
Skills Partnerships – fair migration. How to bridge Europe’s need for international talent and our development-oriented approach
 Maija Airas, Head of Unit for International Higher Education Cooperation, EDUFI
 Dr Caroline Felske, Head of the Sustainability Office, DAAD
 Niels Böhm, Senior Desk Officer, Sustainability, DAAD
 - Room 312
▪
ACU Measures: Benchmarking Institutional Data on University Infrastructures for research support
 Dr Beate Knight, Head of Programmes, ACU
 - Room 314
▪
From Ivory Tower to Impact - the Third Mission of Higher Education Institutions (HEI) Unveiled
 Dr Steffen Entenmann, Technical Planner, GIZ
 Dr Michael Hollaender, Head of Competence Center, GIZ
 Friederike Hettinger, Managing Director, TUMint
 Dr Aline Laucke, Senior Project Manager, TUMint
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10.30 h Coffee break

11.00 h **Panel session: Academic support to Ukraine – perspectives and international alignment**

- Mykhailo Vynnytskyi, Deputy Minister of Education and Science of Ukraine (online)
- Katharina Fegebank, Second Mayor of Hamburg, Senator for Science, Research, Equality and Districts
- Dr Kai Sicks, Secretary General, DAAD
- Giorgio Guazzugli Marini, Deputy Head of Unit International Cooperation, DG Education and Culture, European Commission
- Jonah Murphy-Kokodyniak, Executive Vice President, Programme Development and Partner Services, Institute of International Education
- Shiro Nakata, Senior Economist, Europe & Central Asia, Education Global Practice, World Bank (online)

Moderator: Dr Ursula Paintner, Director Communications, DAAD

12.30 h Lunch break

14.00 h Breakout sessions (I)

4 parallel breakout sessions

- Room 310



▪ **Higher Education in Emergencies – national and European protection programmes | Part I**
Hilde Kjøstvedt, Senior adviser, HK-dir
Larissa Wagner, Head of Section, Section Third Party Funding, DAAD
Nabila Chehab, Senior Desk Officer, DAAD
Nina Knops, Senior Desk Officer, DAAD
Sebastian Gries, Project Leader EMPM, DAAD
Stefan Hase-Bergen, Senior Responsible Officer EMPM, DAAD
 - Room 311



▪ **How to build more equitable partnerships in higher education – a focus on Africa**
Huw Davies, Head of Business Development, Global Partnerships and Innovation – Higher Education and Science | Cultural Engagement, British Council
 - Room 312



▪ **Ensuring continued support for the Ukrainian higher education sector**
Dr Ursula Paintner, Director Communications, DAAD
Maija Airas, Head of Unit for International Higher Education Cooperation, EDUFI Finnish National Agency for Education
Piotr Kępski, Director Department Programmes for institutions, NAWA
 - Room 314



▪ **Interagency Steering Group on Higher Education in Humanitarian and Development Contexts | Part I**
Manal Stulgaitis, Higher Education Lead, UNHCR
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14.45 h Breakout sessions (II)

- Room 310



▪ **Higher Education in Emergencies – national and European protection programmes | Part II**
Hilde Kjøstvedt, Senior adviser, HK-dir
Larissa Wagner, Head of Section, Section Third Party Funding, DAAD
Nina Knops, Senior Desk Officer, DAAD
Sebastian Gries, Project Leader EMPM, DAAD
Stefan Hase-Bergen, Senior Responsible Officer EMPM, DAAD
 - Room 311



▪ **Entrepreneurial and Engaged Universities - Realistic contributions to regional development**
Dr Steffen Entenmann, Technical Planner, GIZ
Dr Michael Hollaender, Head of Competence Center, GIZ
Friederike Hettinger, Managing Director, TUMint
Dr Aline Laucke, Senior Project Manager, TUMint
Jan Kennis, Global Network Manager, VLIRUOS
 - Room 314



▪ **Interagency Steering Group on Higher Education in Humanitarian and Development Contexts | Part II**
Manal Stulgaitis, Higher Education Lead, UNHCR
 - Room 312



▪ **Rethinking Erasmus+ cooperation between higher education institutions in Europe and other parts of the world**
Claire Herrmann, Policy Officer, European Commission – DG EAC
Adrian Veale, Policy Officer, European Commission – DG EAC
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15.45 h Coffee break

16.15 h **Panel session: Higher education in Emergencies**

- Ghazala M. Syed, Higher Education Senior Advisor, USAID
- Marianna Knirsch, Deputy Head of Section 103 – Education, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, Germany
- Kristien Verbrugghen, Director, VLIRUOS, Belgium
- Manal Stulgaitis, Education Section, Division of Resilience and Solutions, UNHCR
- Muhammad Khaskeia, Head of Section, Government Scholarship Programmes Middle East and North Africa, DAAD

Moderator: Dr Beate Knight, Head of Programmes, the Association of Commonwealth Universities (ACU)

17:45 **Closing remarks**

Michael Hörig, Director DAAD Brussels Office

Dr Caroline Felske, Head of the Sustainability Office, DAAD

18.00 **End of Day 2**

19.00 **Conference dinner - La Brasserie des Alexiens**

Rue des Alexiens 63, 1000 Bruxelles

For any inquiries, please check the [event website](#) or contact sdhgforum2024@daad.de