



HeKKSaGOn
NETWORK OF UNIVERSITIES

Call for Applications

HeKKSaGOn Working Group Projects

Within the framework of the HeKKSaGOn Alliance, scholars and researchers of the six partner universities have the opportunity to apply for seed funding to support working group projects. Both existing HeKKSaGOn working groups and new initiatives are invited to submit applications for funding for up to three years for joint projects with well-defined objectives and activities. Project applications should take into account the HeKKSaGOn presidents' strategic decisions for the second cycle and its priority areas, and should state their contribution to the sustainability of the HeKKSaGOn Alliance.

The HeKKSaGOn Alliance

The German-Japanese university consortium HeKKSaGOn was founded in July 2010 as an association of three German and three Japanese universities. HeKKSaGOn stands for the **H**eidelberg – **K**yoto – **K**arlsruhe – **T**ohoku/**S**endai – **G**öttingen – **O**saka – **n**etwork. The university partners in HeKKSaGOn share the conviction that important global problems can be solved only through interdisciplinary and international cooperation and through the open exchange of knowledge. For further information please refer to: <http://www.hekksagon.net/>

Priority areas

At the 7th HeKKSaGOn University Presidents' Conference in 2019, the presidents and rectors decided to focus on the following priority areas related to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):

1. Transcultural studies and the transformation of cultural heritage
2. Data science, digitization, and artificial intelligence
3. Health, well-being, safe and resilient societies
4. Engineering molecular systems and bio-imaging

Funding

Funding will be provided to the successful project applications for a period of up to three years. Member universities are only able to provide funding support to their own researchers. Four to six projects will be funded. Funding is intended to be used for purposes such as travel, accommodation, and the organization of workshops, seasonal schools, and seminars. However, the purposes for which funding is used, the amount of funding provided, the period in which it must be used, and the way in which it must be used varies for each individual university. For further information, please contact your local HeKKSaGOn coordinator.

The funding shall be considered as seed funding, and the project groups are encouraged to look for additional sources of funding for further project activities.

The projects can start after having been positively evaluated on October 1st, 2020 at the earliest and should be terminated no later than September 30th, 2023.

Who can apply?

Applications must be submitted by a group of scholars/researchers from at least three of the six HeKKSaGOn member universities. Each group must include the participation of researchers from at least one Japanese member university and at least one German member university. At least one researcher should act as lead coordinator (chairperson) of the project.

Selection criteria

The following aspects will be taken into account for the selection of projects:

- Coherence of the proposal
- Definition of concrete goals and activities (including a schedule and milestones)
- Relevance of the topic to the HeKKSaGOn priority areas
- Relevance for/interaction with society
- Inclusion of young researchers and graduate students, as well as educational aspects
- Multidisciplinary, data-driven approach
- Contribution to the sustainability of the HeKKSaGOn Alliance, respectively of cooperation within the HeKKSaGOn Alliance (e.g. collaborative research, applications for external funding, joint degree programs, etc.).

Submission of the project proposal

The project proposal (The HeKKSaGOn Application for Funding for Working Group Projects) must be submitted by the group's lead coordinator to the HeKKSaGOn coordinator of his/her university and Kyoto University (please find the contact information at the bottom of this document.)

Application deadline (via e-mail): September 9th, 2020 (9.00 am, JST)

Result announcement

Expected date of results notification: End of September 2020

Policy disclaimer

In line with HeKKSaGOn's commitment to equality and diversity, we encourage applications from persons with diverse backgrounds, regardless of career stage, age, disability, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, or religion.

Interim and final reports

Lead and/or co-coordinators of projects are requested to attend the HeKKSaGOn University Presidents' Conferences and give a report on the development and results of their projects. The provision of travel expenses required for the project leader and/or co-coordinators to attend the Presidents' Conferences are subject to each university's individual funding scheme.

HeKKSaGOn Coordinators's Contact:

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