

ECR Program

June 2023

Kyoto University (KU) and Universität Hamburg (UHH) Funding Program Call for ECR Mobility Program Proposals 2023 (ECR Program)

In July 2020, Kyoto University (KU) and Universität Hamburg (UHH) concluded a Memorandum of Understanding to form a joint strategic partnership. The Memorandum is going to be extended further three years from 2023, and it was agreed that KU and UHH jointly promote the collaboration under the theme of “Planetary Health”. With the goal of initiating and strengthening their cooperation in research and education, KU and UHH have launched a funding program to support joint projects related to “Planetary Health”. The funding aims to enable KU and UHH faculty and researchers to identify complementary strengths, facilitate the use of synergies, and promote the future development of projects.

The involvement of early career researchers (ECRs) in the exchange and collaboration between KU and UHH is deemed a vital factor in ensuring its sustainability. The joint funding ECR Program seeks to develop sustainable collaboration and exchange in all research domains related to “Planetary Health” such as:

Water Scarcity, Changing Food Systems, Urbanization, Biodiversity Shifts, Natural Disasters, Climate Change, Changing Land Use and Land Cover, Global Pollution, Changing Biogeochemical Flows, Non Communicable Diseases, Infectious Disease, Mental Health, Nutrition, Civil Strife and Displacement.

Amount of funding provided through the program

Up to 4,000 EUR/600,000 JPY per person for the travel expenses of approximately 4 researchers visiting from UHH to KU or from KU to UHH for short-term research stays.

Eligible persons

Persons with any of the following statuses at KU and UHH for the duration of the KU-UHH joint project are eligible to apply for this program:

- Master's/PhD students
- Researchers who have held a PhD or master's degree for less than eight years prior to October 1, 2023 ^{*1}

^{*1} When counting the years after PhD/master's acquisition, periods of maternity/paternity leave and childcare leave can be excluded. When submitting the application, please ensure that there are no problems with regards to the effort management and travel procedures of the person undertaking the visit.

Funding period

The proposed activities should be conducted during the period mid-October 2023 to early March 2024. Travel expenses will be provided in accordance with the applicable regulations of each university.

Selection criteria

Funding for joint activities will be provided on a competitive basis. Projects will be selected by a joint KU-UHH committee, giving particular attention to the following criteria:



- A clearly formulated activity plan (comprehensible to non-experts).
- Potential for strengthening institutional links between KU and UHH.
- Potential for the development of sustainable research collaboration and exchange.
- Potential for acquiring third party funding in the future.
- Validity of the reasons for which the funding is necessary.

Submission and deadline

Proposals for the KU-UHH funding scheme should be submitted by candidates who are full-time faculty members of KU or UHH, or, in the case of students and research fellows, by the candidate's academic supervisor. Proposals must be submitted in English.

The required application documents are as follows:

1) Completed application form, including:

- a) Project title**
- b) Details of the applicant, and the visiting and hosting researchers**
- c) Description of the planned project/activities (max. length: 2 pages)**
- d) Budget calculation**

2) Complete CVs of the visiting and host researchers

3) A letter of invitation issued by the host researcher at the host university

Deadline

Proposals must be submitted by **6:59 (JST) 1 August 2023 / 23:59 (CEST) 31 July 2023**.

A report of the program must be submitted after its completion. The report shall be made publicly available.

Please be sure to acknowledge the receipt of funding from this program when announcing any outcomes obtained from research supported by this funding.

The applicant is responsible for the provision of comprehensive and correct information in the application process. Incomplete or inaccurate application documents may result in the application being deemed invalid.

All proposals from KU and UHH applicants should be sent **by email to the following address**:

Universität Hamburg:

Gero Hemker

Department of International Affairs

E-Mail: gero.hemker@uni-hamburg.de