



FINNISH NATIONAL
AGENCY FOR EDUCATION

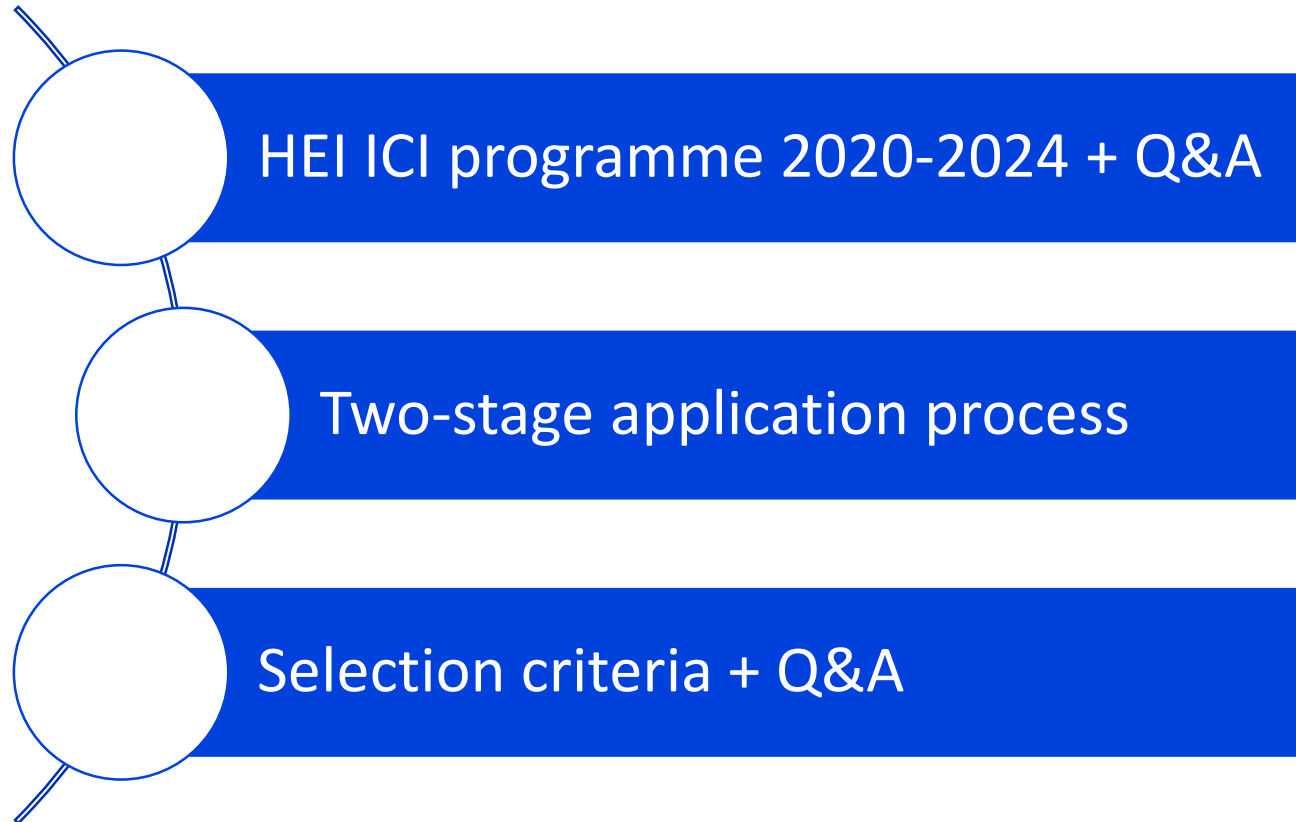
HEI ICI Programme 2020- 2024 – How to apply

12 April 2019





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HEI ICI programme 2020-2024

1. Basic information
2. The purpose and objectives
3. Partnership
4. Eligible themes and methods
5. Financing frame

The HEI ICI programme

Supporting partnerships between Finnish HEIs and HEIs in developing countries since 2009

Funded by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, with development aid

The aim is to strengthen the capacity of HEIs in the global south in order to contribute to **well-functioning, relevant and accessible higher education to the students.**

Currently funded projects [HEI ICI projects 2017-2020](#)



The HEI ICI Call 2019

Two-stage selection process, final results available in spring 2020

Total budget to be allocated **11,3 MIL euro**

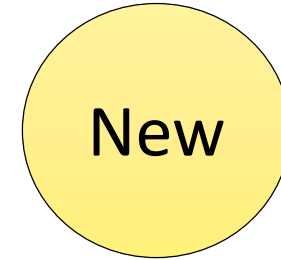
Project implementation **1.5.2020-30.4.2024** for a maximum duration of **4 years**.

The state aid amounts to a maximum of 80 % of the total project budget

Project-specific aid ranges between 300 000 to 2 MIL euro



What's new in HEI ICI 2020-2024



- Two-stage selection process to ease the burden for HEIs
- Thematic focus on three themes: Solving the Learning Crisis, Climate Change and Innovations
- Partner countries; Ethiopia, Eritrea, Kenya, Tanzania, Zambia, Namibia, Mozambique, Palestine Territories, Egypt, Nepal, Myanmar and Vietnam
- Scaling-up the impact with longer projects, larger partnerships and bigger budget (financial incentive for networking in Finland)
- Focus on teaching and widening access to Higher education

The Purpose and Objectives of the Programme

KEY QUESTIONS OF THE PROGRAMME:

*What are the tools and methods **to scale up** the project level activities to wider solutions **benefiting a large number of students within the partner university, partner country and even further?***

*Given the rapid change in the global set-up of universities, changing needs in the employment markets, increased demand for HEIs and the mobility of students, how can we **support the developing country HEIs to prepare for the future?***



New
technology:
OER, ODL,
MOOCs

IMPACT

to strengthen the capacity of HEIs in the partner countries in order to contribute to well-functioning, relevant and accessible **higher education for the students.**

OUTCOME

improved institutional **management and teaching capacity** in HEIs in the partner countries participating in the programme.

OUTPUT 1

The HEI improved capacity to **provide high-quality education** to an increased number of students

OUTPUT 2

The institutional capacity and **relevance of educational attainments** is improved.

OUTPUT 3

The partnerships stimulate **internationalization and mutual learning.**

Indicator

The benefit to students in terms of passed new training (number of students who have passed education equivalent to min. 5 ECTS).

Indicator

Number of faculties, schools or equivalent in the partner universities where a capacity building process (curriculum updating, pedagogical updating, a training package equivalent to 5 ECTS credits, administrative upgrading etc) has been finalized and approved by the university administration.

Eligible themes

1. Solving the learning crisis


[The World Bank report \(2018\)](#)

- *low learning outcomes in primary, secondary and vocational education*
- *relates to teacher capacities, incentives, motivation, teacher-teacher dynamics*
- *teaching methods, materials, teacher-student relations, teacher-headmaster-community relations, student capacities and student motivations*
- *results from wider policy, administrative and financial choices. These issues have cultural, language related, gendered and age related dimensions.*

The solving of the learning crisis requires development within the HEIs and teacher training institutions which combine pedagogical tools (including modern ICT-based tools when relevant) with socially and culturally sensitive practical examples.



Eligible themes



Cross-
disciplinary
approach

2. Climate change

Climate change mitigation and adaptation concern solutions which cross over traditional scientific disciplines. These include economic, social and ecological considerations. Thus forest, land, water and energy resources need to be utilised in a sustainable manner.

HEIs have an important role in acquiring and sharing information on climate change within the developing countries but also, together with other actors, in advocating solutions which are both efficient and provide employment opportunities in scale.

Eligible themes

3. Social and technical innovations for employability

The HEIs advance information on innovations in developing countries.

HEIs have access to new scientific knowledge and means to share this to the students and wider audiences.

Focus is placed on innovations with prospects for enhancing employability in large scale.

Many disciplines but linked to commercial and technical disciplines. Cooperation with non-academic actors.

Eligible methods for advancing capacity building

- curricula, teaching methods,
- teaching materials, including on-line materials,
- access to existing teaching materials,
- accreditation and approval mechanisms,
- equipment upgrading,
- training of trainers,
- thematic workshops and seminars,
- staff capacity building through exchange visits,
- peer learning and exchange of expertise,
- administrative and leadership structures,
- quality monitoring mechanisms,
- thematic networking and internationalisation,
- supportive thematic networking within Finland,
- strengthening the societal roles of HEIs,
- support services, data collection and management tasks related to any of these methods

The financing **cannot** be used for

- research,
- student or graduate student exchange visits,
- post-graduate studies of individual students

HEI ICI partnership

- **Finnish HEI as applicant and coordinator**
- Eligible developing country partners:
 - *Ethiopia, Eritrea, Kenya, Tanzania, Zambia, Namibia, Mozambique,*
 - *Palestine Territories, Egypt,*
 - *Nepal, Myanmar or Vietnam*
- Minimum one southern partner HEI + one Finnish HEI, HEIs must have the right to award higher education degrees.
- *Smaller, less advanced and less-resourced partners*
- *Non-academic stakeholders*



HEI ICI partnership & financing frame

- The state aid falls between 300.000 and 2.000.000 € -> encouraging *thematic institutional cooperation between Finnish higher education institutions*:
 1. One Finnish HEI (the applicant), max. 1.000.000 €.
 2. Two Finnish HEIs (the applicant and 1 partner), max. 1.500.000 €.
 3. Three or more Finnish HEIs (the applicant and at least 2 partner HEIs), max. 2.000.000 €.

7-20 projects will be selected for the new programme



Project budgeting

- Based on budget template for the years 2020-2024
- At the first stage only the amount applied is requested. Budget template is to be filled only at the second stage of the call
- **Coordinating HEIs invoice EDUFI** once a year after the approved annual report, no more payment request forms

Project budgeting vs available annual funds

- HEIs are flexible to budget within the programme limits, but must be aware of the available invoicing amounts
- The invoicing schedule is based on the available annual state budgets through the MFA

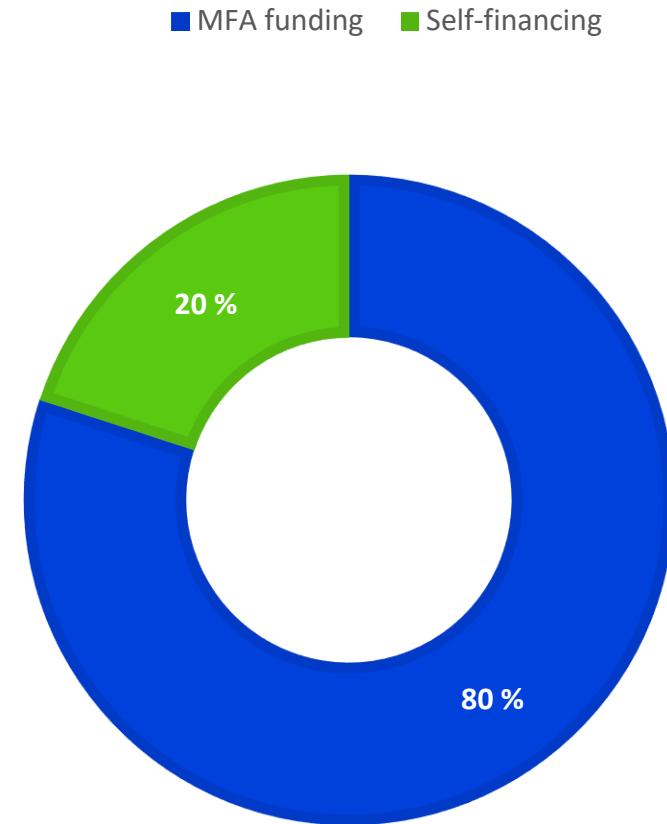
-> this does not mean that the annual budgets must be according to the table but this is the max. amount HEIs can invoice from EDUFI

Available funding/invoicing amount per year

2020	7 % of the total approved state aid
2021	10%
2022	20%
2023	20%
2024	43%

Budgeting and Self-financing

- Minimum 20% self-financing
- All Finnish partners participate
- Southern partners according to their possibilities, not compulsory for them



Questions?

Two-stage application and selection process

1. Application process – two stages
2. Online application tool
3. Selection process
4. Evaluation criteria

Application Process – two stages

The application process is conducted in two phases.

1. The Call for Proposals (first stage)
2. The Call for Final Applications (2nd stage)

The proposals for both Calls are submitted to the EDUFI electronic application tool. The deadline for the first stage Call for Proposals is 23rd August 2019.

Only shortlisted HEIs are requested to prepare a Final Application.

Application Process - documents

Call for Proposals – first stage

- [An online application](#)
- **Attachment:** [Project Proposal](#)

Call for Final Applications – second stage

- An online application
- Attachments (templates below):
 - [The Project Document](#)
 - [The Results Framework](#)
 - [The Risk Analysis Matrix](#)
 - [The Work Plan](#) and [Budget](#)
 - [The Key Expert forms](#)

Application document – Project Proposal

- A. BASIC INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROJECT**
- B. INFORMATION ABOUT APPLICANT AND PARTNERS** – if more partners than one, please add box for each partner
- C. DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT**

B. INFORMATION ON APPLICANT AND PARTNERS

1. Applicant: the commitment from the Finnish Higher Education Institution

The Call is targeted to Finnish higher education institutions and only these are eligible applicants. The applicant is the official contractual partner of the MFA and is responsible for the lawful use of all funds.

Name of the higher education institution, email, address	
Identification number to tax authorities	
Contact person / Coordinator, email, phone, address	
Name of the authorizing person (with legal authority to sign on behalf of the institution), title, signature	
Name of the project, also short name/abbreviation	
Date of the project proposal (as stated in section A)	

Online Application tool – VA-system

- In both stages EDUFI online tool (“Valtionavustusjärjestelmä”) is used for submitting the applications
- Instructions on how to submit the application are found here: [Technical instructions](#)
- Link to the online application: <https://valtionavustukset.oph.fi/avustushaku/229/?lang=fi>



OPETUSHALLITUS
UTBILDNINGSSTYRELSEN

HAKEMUS

HEI ICI Programme 2020-2024

Hakuaika 3.4.2019 klo 16.00 — 23.8.2019 klo 16.15

Esikatsela [hakulomaketta](#)

ALOITA HAKEMUKSEN TÄYTTÄMINEN [?](#)

Sähköpostiosoitteesi *

Luo uusi hakemus

Selection Process – First stage

Technical eligibility check by EDUFI + three evaluation phases:

1. External evaluators perform a qualitative evaluation, based on set HEI-ICI evaluation criteria. The consolidation meeting of the external experts results in a scoring list of proposals. A project proposal can get maximum 100 points.
2. MFA experts evaluate the development policy relevance and theory of change of the proposals. Maximum 5 additional point for a single project.
3. The HEI ICI Programme Board can give max. 5 point using the qualitative external evaluation and the MFA comments as a basis for evaluation. Programme Board proposes, how many projects will be shortlisted for the next round and MFA decides which applicants are selected in the shortlist.

Selection Process – Second stage

Shortlisted applicants are requested to prepare a final application

Technical eligibility check by EDUFI

- The applications assessed by a team of external experts who represent the expertise on universities, results based management and development policy. The maximum points is 100.
- The list is discussed by the Programme Board in a separate selection meeting, using the qualitative assessment of external experts as a starting point. The Programme Board can give maximum 5 additional points for any project.
- The MFA approves the final state aid decision within the framework of the appropriations approved by the Finnish Parliament.

Timetable

3 April, 2019	Call for Applications opened
23 August, 2019	Deadline for submission of first stage Project Proposals
23 November, 2019	Tentatively: shortlisted projects for the Call for Final Applications have been selected
28 February, 2020	Tentatively: deadline for the submission of Final Applications
15 April, 2020	Tentatively: decision for the projects to be funded
1 May, 2020	Tentatively: projects start when the Finnish HEI has approved the decision of state aid and the period of complaints is over.

Evaluation Criteria

- Project Logic –Theory of Change 30 p
- The Analysis of Risks and Challenges 20 p
- Relevance and Complementarity 20p
- The Quality of the Partnership 30p

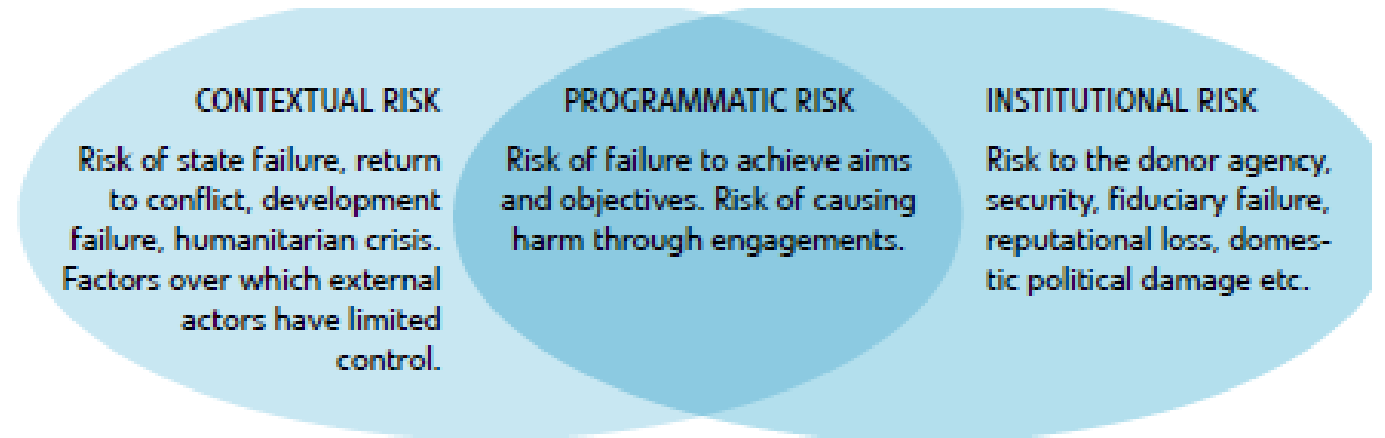


Project logic – theory of change 30 p

- Outputs → outcome → impact
- Focus on *impact among teaching staff and students at partner HEIs*
 - *Promotion and ways of reaching students*
- Methodology, change introduced (skills, resources, attitudes etc)
- Choices of effectiveness and cost-efficiency
- Human rights based approach, cross-cutting objectives

The analysis of risks and challenges 20 p

- See Programme Document, 2.9
- contextual (e.g. country context, operational environment, legislative framework)
- programmatic (related to methodology chosen)
- institutional (risk to MFA and Finland)
- [DANIDA examples of risks](#)



Relevance and complementarity 20p

- Strategic alignment with partner country and partner HEIs relevant policies and plans
- Complementarity with partner HEIs other activities
- Complementarity with other Finnish-funded activities (contact Finnish Embassies)
- Added value of the partnership composition, particularly in Finland
- Potential for future commercial activities, and benefits for Team Finland work

The quality of the partnership 30p

- Capacity of the partnership: skills, academic expertise, experience and management support
- Inclusion of younger, less internationally exposed HEIs from developing countries
- Background of the collaboration
- Joint preparation and needs definition, institutional commitment
- Ownership nurturing during the project implementation
- Involvement of non-academic partners
- Multiplier effects created by the partnership composition

Questions?



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Kiitos!

