Saarland University has an outstanding international profile thanks to the very high number of international degree programmes, the continuously far above-average proportion of international students, graduates and employees, its European focus with particular emphasis on France, the large number of active partnerships and close cross-border cooperation as part of the University of the Greater Region and, since 2020, through its European university alliance Transform4Europe (T4EU).

Over the next few years, our goal is to consolidate and further develop our profile as an international European university with a focus on France, for example by attracting international students and academics, through targeted internationalization of study programmes, by expanding our welcome offers and our international organizational culture and expanding our international partnerships and networks.

Key to this internationalization process is the daily commitment of our researchers, lecturers, students and employees. Internationalization must be considered as a matter of course and actively cultivated in the faculties, institutions and administration.

The responsible Internationalization Committee of the Senate has therefore allocated an annual total of € 40,000 from the Internationalization Fund to ‘Active internationalization’ under funding category 1.

**To be eligible for funding, measures must be in line with the internationalization objectives**, for example:

Grants for organizing international events (at least 30% international speakers, guests, partners, etc.), initial funding for international project applications (DAAD, etc.), grants towards the department’s contribution to a DAAD guest lectureship, development of cooperative and/or joint degree programmes, measures to initiate or strengthen international strategic partnerships to promote the international mobility of students, researchers, lecturers and other staff, the internationalization of teaching (e.g. international summer schools, development of introductory measures for international students, (further) development of joint programmes), measures to promote
internationalization at home (e.g. virtual mobility via long-distance teaching/learning, discussion forums or video conferences, intercultural teaching projects at Saarland University), inviting visiting scholars, measures to further develop central services and internationalization projects, etc. 

(Maximum sum per project: usually € 3,000).

Eligible costs:
- Project costs (including teaching assignments, student research assistants and research assistants)
- Travel expenses
- Project duration: maximum two years

Funding from the Internationalization Fund will only be provided if no standard funding options, no sufficient funding (e.g. from other central funds) or no external funding are available for the measures.

Examples of ineligible measures include:
- Individual applications (scholarships) for students (incoming, outgoing)
- Travel expenses that can be funded via Erasmus+ mobility funds for researchers and lecturers
- Projects aimed at the internationalization of study programmes that are eligible for the teaching and studying fund
- Graduate training projects that can be funded through GradUS Global
- Measures and projects promoting cross-border cooperation eligible for funding from the UniGR fund

The following groups of persons at Saarland University are eligible to apply for funding category 1 of the Internationalization Fund:
- Professorial staff
- Junior professors
- Academic research associates
- Lecturers with specialist teaching duties (excluding external part-time teaching staff)
- Members of the AStA and StuPa as well as (accredited) student initiatives
- Central and interdepartmental (scientific) institutions
- Emeriti as long as they involve a member from the above groups of people in the project
- Central administration staff

To ensure the success of the project, the applicant’s contracted term of employment should cover the duration of the proposed project.

The measures for which funding is applied will be evaluated according to the following criteria:
- To what extent does the measure contribute to the internationalization objectives of Saarland University?
- Is the measure designed to be sustainable? What effects are expected in the medium and long term?
- Is any financial contribution being made by the department or research institute?
- Have other funding sources been exhausted (external funding, other central funds, other funding programmes)?
- In the case of longer-term activities, how will the long-term funding and/or continuation of the measure be achieved?

Selection process
- Funding from the Internationalization Fund will only be provided if no standard funding options, no sufficient funding (e.g. from other central funds) or no external funding are available for the measures.
- Applications must be submitted via the Dean of the faculty (or the management of the institution applying) to the International Relations Division (intfonds@uni-saarland.de).
- Applications are possible at any time
- Funding decisions will be issued within two months of application.
- All publications resulting from the funded measure (e.g. posters, flyers, websites) should include the words ‘funded by the Internationalization Fund of Saarland University’ together with the Saarland University logo.
- The applicant is required to submit a project and financial report (forms will be provided; in the case of conference funding, please also attach the final report).
programme and list of participants) detailing the implementation of the measure and the use of funds to the International Relations Division no later than three months after completion of the measure.