

5th Call for applications - HERD/Energy 2010-2016

The Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) has developed a Programme in Higher Education, Research and Development in the Western Balkans (HERD.) The overall aim of HERD is to contribute to economic growth and social development through cooperation in higher education and research in the Western Balkans.

NTNU has been requested to administer HERD/Energy on behalf of the MFA. This 5th call for applications is presented with reference to the Agreement between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Norwegian University of Science and Technology, NTNU, signed on 7th of May, 2010.

Grants allocated under the present call are limited to the period 2013–2016.

Eligible partner countries: Bosnia & Herzegovina and Kosovo will be given priority, but Albania, Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia are also qualified for support.

Institutions that are members of the Norwegian Association of Higher Education Institutions (UHR) in Norway and nationally accredited Universities and University Colleges in the eligible Western Balkan countries may participate in the programme.

The main objectives of HERD/Energy are:

1. ***Institutional Development (Mandatory)***: To contribute to educating a national work force that has adequate innovative qualifications in the energy sector by building, in the longer term perspective, sustainable capacity of higher education institutions in Bosnia & Herzegovina and Kosovo
2. ***Applied Research and Development (Optional)***: To stimulate innovation, product and process development in the energy sector through support to applied research and development in the Western Balkans.

This 5th call for applications opens for applications which aim at achieving these objectives. The sector board for HERD/Energy would like to stress that the focus of the applications should be put on the *institutional development* of the HEI involved in the Western Balkans.

Specifically the board will look for the following elements in the project applications:

1. ***A strong focus on the need to strengthen education*** within the area of Energy related subjects at the institutions in the WB. This includes a thorough description of the present situation at the institutions, and of how the suggested project will contribute towards an improved situation within the academic areas covered by the programme. This section should also take into the *employability* of candidates within these areas in the surrounding society and the region.
2. The development of ***new study programmes/new degree programmes*** within energy related subjects at the HEI in the Western Balkans.
3. Each applicant has to develop a ***clear exit strategy*** and make specific remarks on how the activities initiated through the HERD/Energy programme will form a sustainable development at the WB institutions upon the end of the project period, when financing through the HERD/Energy programme comes to an end.
4. ***A detailed and explained budget***. Each application should develop a detailed budget using the template provided by the HERD/Energy secretariat. All dispositions within the budget need to be explained, stating the specific underlying rates for each bulk sum in the budget. The board would like to stress that salary expenses should be kept at a minimum level, and that the budget should reflect the priority of educational activities as the main focus in the project.

The scope and objectives of HERD are further outlined in the HERD Programme Document dated 01.03.2010.

MFA shall, subject to Parliamentary appropriation, make available to the HERD/Energy a total allocation not exceeding NOK 32,000,000 (Norwegian kroner thirty two million) over four years. The funds shall be utilized during the planned HERD/Energy programme period 2010–2016 according to the priorities of the HERD/Energy Sector Board.

For more information about HERD/Energy and application guidelines please see www.ntnu.edu/international/herd

Joint applications should be sent to hilde.skeie@ntnu.no within the deadline: **November 1 st 2013 at 15:00 hrs.**

The decision on allocation of funds will be made by the HERD/Energy Sector Board in December 2013.

The Secretariat's manager is Hilde Skeie at The Office of International Relations at NTNU, 7491 Trondheim. Phone: +47 73 59 52 50, e-mail: hilde.skeie@ntnu.no