

nairobi newsletter



Deutscher Akademischer Austausch Dienst
German Academic Exchange Service

Call for applications

The **Berlin Graduate School Muslim Cultures and Societies** calls for applications for its doctoral programme, to begin on October 1st 2014. Funded by the Excellence Initiative of the German Federal and State Governments, the programme will admit up to **fifteen PhD students and up to ten of these can receive full funding for three years**. Applications are welcome from candidates whose projects fits one of the Graduate School's Research Areas.

Final **deadline** for applications is **15th November 2013**, for more details: <http://www.bgsmcs.fu-berlin.de>

Call for applications 2

6 PhD scholarships for the **International Max Planck Research School for Moral Economies of Modern Societies** available!

The scholarships commence in October 2014. The successful candidates receive a monthly grant of ca. 1,365€. Graduates in history and related fields are encouraged to apply. Application period: Nov 1st – Dec 1st, 2013

Application and admission: www.mpib-berlin.mpg.de/imprs-mems

Enquiries: moral.economies@mpib-berlin.mpg.de

Editorial

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Call for Centre for Higher Education Research and Management

I am personally very happy that the German Foreign Office agreed to support an Africa-wide **Centre on Higher Education Research and Management**.

I am very convinced that the output of such a Centre will be in very high demand. To steer ever more complex Higher Education sectors on the continent, reliable information and analysis, qualitative but also quantitative, will be dearly needed. This will help to answer some burning questions like how to transparently distribute public funding to universities, how to create Centres of Excellence and PhD training schools, whether Quality Assurance leads to quality or which ranking type provides relevant information to students.

We would like to **very strongly encourage** all teams of experts in this field to get in touch with their German counterparts to come up with an excellent joint application. Research Institutes and University Commissions could very well join as supporting partners of a consortium. A comprehensive call can be found on page 3 of this newsletter. If you are convinced of your university's excellence in this field, yet, still look for a German partner, please get in touch with us.

Christoph Hansert, Director Regional Office for Africa



Celebrating the achievement: The new In-country scholars in Kenya.

Welcome, new In-Country scholars in Kenya!

We are happy to announce that 30 (thirty) new DAAD In-country scholarship holders joined the DAAD family in Kenya. They will pursue master and PhD courses at public and private Kenyan universities.

University of Nairobi: Mwaura, Agnes; Kang'ethe, James; Muinde, Veronica. **Kenyatta U:** Okumu, Noah; Araka, Eric. **JKUAT:** Chonge, Monicah; Mwangi, James; Kalwe, Johnston; Kaaria, Purity; Omollo, Kevin. **Moi U:** Maina, Peter; Mbutia, Grace. **Egerton U:** Karue, Milcah; Mwaniki, Douglas; Njue, Annette; Mutunga, Timothy. **Maseno U:** Onyango, Alice Anyango; Long'ora, Albert; Ogunah, Joanne. **Masinde Muliro U:** Akwee, Peter; Kaigongi, Magrate. **Pwani U:** Otieno, Victor. **Mt. Kenya U:** Nyakundi, Vierra. **Technical U of Kenya:** Mangare, Caroline. **SEUCO:** Mwangi, Mary. **Technical U of Mombasa:** Agoro, David. **Non-academic institutions:** Dzombo, Millicent; Abonyo, Esther; Musila, Fredrick.

Kenya: Participatory Watershed Planning for the Tsavo River Sub-Catchment

The motto for regional seminars organized by University of Siegen, Germany and its network GAWN has ever been the relation of water issues to practice. End of August 2013, a team of German Alumni scientists from Ethiopia, Sudan, Tanzania Uganda, Kenya and Germany went out to the catchment of the River Tsavo in the Athi River Basin, Kenya, to conduct an international Alumni Expert Seminar, organised by University of Siegen and Taita Taveta University College, supported by DAAD, GIZ and Severin Safari Camp (Tsavo West National Park). The group of Alumni scientists was extended by a team of local stakeholders. Representatives of County Governments were invited as well.

The main objective was to understand challenges and opportunities for restoration of the degraded catchment and to come up with practical approaches. The team met in Loitokitok in the upper part of the catch-



Surveying the Tsavo River Catchment: Its functioning is highly compromised.

ment. During a three-day field assessment data were collected. Water-related issues identified in the upper part were related to downstream impacts. Main stakeholders involved in water use and management were identified and levels of co-operation were mapped.

Results of the surveys showed that Tsavo River catchment is heavily degraded. Legal water use permits are missing; water pumps are used intensively and uncontrolled. Ki-mana wetlands lost their catchment functions with subsequent impacts on Amboseli and Tsavo National Parks. Water canals were mostly unlined, water was diverted leaving the river bed nearly dry leading to the fact that River Tsavo is completely falling dry regularly since 2000, leading to disappearance of wildlife.

Compromise between upstream and downstream users is needed. A catchment stakeholder forum should be organized. An executive summary has been sent to the county governments for further action. An evaluation seminar will be held in May 2014.

Ruger Winnegge

Kenya: What future(s) for the African middle class?

In public debates and in economic discussions, the “African Middle Class” has received much attention in the previous years. Yet it remains rather unclear who actually forms this group and how its members live. Very little academic research has been done on lifestyles and middle classes in Africa. The anthropological-sociological project “Middle Classes on the Rise - Future Concepts between Freedom, Consumerism, Tradition and Morality” examines the differences among the social groups or milieus that form the middle class of urban Kenya. The project takes Nairobi - and in parts Mombasa as comparison - as a case study for different social milieus and their future visions in African middle classes. The latter can be indicators for variations of milieus and their lifestyles as they can show diverging orientations (short vs. long term), values (individualistic vs. family) and other influencing factors. Future perspectives can indicate strategies, ideas of a good social order or certain hopes in a social milieu.

Dr. des. Lena Kroeker and Dr. Florian spent 3,5 months in Kenya to prepare the research project as well as a student exchange with Moi University Eldoret which will take place in 2014 and 2015. The project “Middle Classes on the Rise” is one of five projects of the Bayreuth Academy of Advanced African Studies (www.bayreuth-academy.uni-bayreuth.de). These projects cover different disciplines and various African countries but share the focus on “Africa and Future.” □

Experts on WW I wanted!

I am working on a research project for the German Institut für Auslandsbeziehungen (ifa). For a [study on the First World War's centenary](#), I am looking for experts on the African aspects of this global conflict: How is the Great War being remembered today (if at all)? How were the colonial combatants treated during and after the war? What were the effects of the war, including social implications? Did the war influence the arts and are/were there artists addressing these issues?

I would be grateful for any contributions. Please contact me via bayer@ifa.de, +49-30-3010 6023

Martin Bayer



IDC in Germany

African delegates travelled to Germany to attend the International Deans' Course, sponsored by DAAD and HRK. Please read the report published in the [DAAD Magazine](#) (German only!).



DAAD in Uganda Education Fair

The DAAD in Uganda exhibited at the first East African University Fair at the 6 and 7 of September at Hotel Africana in Kampala. It was the first fair of this kind and was very successful. About 150 visitors inquired about study courses in Germany, scholarships offered by DAAD or to wanted general information about studying and living in Germany.

In the picture you see our stand with our assistants.

Call: Centre of excellence in educational research and management (including didactics)

The establishment of [centres of excellence](#) at universities on an international level for the training of future leaders in sub-Saharan Africa is the pillar of DAAD's Africa strategy. Its aim is to increase the quality and relevance of training in specific subjects at African universities, to build research capacities and promote networking among African universities and research institutes and also with German partners. Future leaders will be given the opportunity to receive training at the centres of excellence in accordance with contemporary and international quality standards. At the same time, the centres should create an environment that is conducive to research and offers favourable conditions for international cooperation. The goal is for each centre to strive to develop its own impact on the region and beyond.

Up till now, there has been insufficient data assessment and analysis in the education sector in African countries. At the same time, both the management of a university and university

systems are based on data reliability. Furthermore, proof of the effects of investment in the university sector is based on reliable data surveys.

Consequently, the centre to be developed shall promote the expansion of research, provide qualifications for scientific talent and improve the management capacities and didactic abilities of the university staff.

Applications can be submitted by one or more German universities or their faculties (consortia) or institutes, together with one or more African partner institute(s). The volume of funding starts with up to €100,000 in the first year of establishment, up to €200,000 in the second and up to €350,000 in the following years. **Project applications** can be submitted until 30 April 2014 (if done after successful completion of preparatory measures).

For more info, contact Sylvia Vogt at fachzentrenafrika@daad.de

Call: Come to Germany with a Georg Forster Research Fellowship (HERMES)

The Alexander von Humboldt Foundation aims to significantly expand its activities in Africa. If you are a qualified researcher interested in cross-border knowledge sharing, the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation gives you the opportunity to carry out a research project that is relevant to development. Post-doctoral and experienced researchers of all disciplines are eligible to apply at any time (no deadlines). You can spend from six months to two years at a research institution in Germany, cooperating with an academic host of your choice.

With the fellowship, you will receive up to 3,150 EUR per month plus benefits such as comprehensive family allowances, German

lessons, a lump sum for travel expenses and a pension plan subsidy. You will become a member of the renowned Humboldt Foundation's worldwide network of excellence and benefit from the tailored alumni sponsorship opportunities for a life time.

For more information please visit www.humboldt-foundation.de/georgforster or post your questions to info@avh.de.

You may also contact the Ambassador Scientists of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation in Ethiopia (Prof. Dr. Tsige Gebre-Mariam, tsigegm@yahoo.com) or Kenya (Prof. Dr. Hamadi Boga, bogahamadi@gmail.com) for further advice.



Kenya: KDSA/DAAD SCIENTIFIC PAPER WRITING WORKSHOP

The Kenya DAAD Scholars Association (KDSA) - Kenyatta University Chapter in collaboration and with support from DAAD Regional Office for Africa in Nairobi held a two day workshop on '**Scientific Paper Writing**'. The workshop was held at Kenyatta University Conference Centre (KUCC) on 25th and 26th July, 2013.

The aim of the workshop was to develop research publication writing skills, specifically to enhance research writing skills of students and academic staff at KU, to expose participants to avenues for publication of research papers, to draft publishable papers from research findings and to foster research publication in relevant journals.

The participants of the workshops were drawn from both teaching and research institutions like Kenyatta University, University Nairobi, Maseno University, Egerton University, University of Eldoret, Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology, Pwani University, Jaramogi Oginga Odinga University of Science and Technology, National Museum of Kenya and University of Bonn. Participants included Masters and PhD students and other upcoming researchers who had as far obtained research data or drafted a manuscript in readiness for publication.

The presentations covered a number of topics that ranged from ethics to skills in scientific publication leading to a step by step guide on the publication process. Of particular importance was the participation of Springer representative James Igamba who provided insights into the world of publishing scientific research, including tools on research, writing and publishing scientific articles. The Chief Librarian of KU Dr. Gitau Njoroge gave an overview on plagiarism and reference management. Dr. Dan Masiga presented useful writing skills for publications. The team of facilitators were Dr. Mildred Oyugi (KU), Dr. Stellamaris Muthoka (Egerton University), Dr. Daniel Onyango (Maseno University), coordinated by Prof. Joy Obando. Participants are expected to disseminate findings through publications in peer reviewed journals. The team also expects to scale up the workshops to other regions through KDSA to enhance the scientific writing skills and dissemination of researchers throughout the country.

During the workshop, the KDSA National Office also handed over to the newly elected office. Dr. Solomon Derese handed over the position of Secretary to Dr. John Ogone, while two new committee members were installed, namely Dr. Grace Cheserek and Bernard Okeyo. Other members of National office present were Prof. Simon Onywere, Dr. Stellamaris Muthoka and Dr. Francis Orata.

Joy Obando

Kenya: New DAAD Lecturer at Kenyatta University

My name is Eva Hamann and I am pleased about being given the opportunity to introduce myself as the new DAAD-lecturer at the Department of Foreign Languages of Kenyatta University.

I studied Cultural Anthropology, American Studies and German as a Foreign Language at the University of Leipzig, the University of Miami and the Université Paul Valéry, Montpellier. Leipzig is, by the way, a university city with a very high quality of living, more than worth visiting or studying in. I am about to finish my PhD thesis. My research interests lie in different approaches to the teaching and learning of a foreign language, that is to the methodology and didactics of German as a Foreign Language teaching.

Work experience I gained, among others, by teaching English and German in Leipzig, as well as a DAAD-lecturer at the Université de Lomé in Togo and by coordinating the German-African Network of Alumnae and Alumni (ganaa), a network with its head office located in Leipzig focussing on multilingualism and language policies in Africa.



I am very much looking forward to working and learning with you here in Kenya. As I find profound education highly important for the prosperity of societies I hope to contribute to the education of young and future teachers and beyond.

Uganda: Training for third group of East African Quality Assurance (QA) coordinators completed

The third part of the regional training workshops for the East African Quality Assurance Coordinators, Cohort C was successfully concluded in Entebbe, Uganda from the 12 – 17 August 2013. The training was attended by representatives from 17 universities drawn of the East African Community Partner States. The participants took time to evaluate and refine their respective program self-assessment reports in readiness for peer reviewing scheduled for early January, 2014. Besides preparing for and receiving peer reviewers, the coordinators also discoursed on other topics such as learning outcomes and project management. Speaking during the opening ceremony, the Executive Director of the Ugandan National Council for Higher Education (NCHE), Prof Opuda Asibo said that universities must take responsibility for quality of education they offer.

The QA coordinators were addressed by the Executive Secretary of the Inter-University Council of East Africa (IUCEA) who assured them of full support. He reminded the participants that IUCEA is spearheading the move towards an East African Higher Education Area by 2015 and that the establishment a regional quality assurance framework is central to this development. He praised the cooperation on quality assurance between IUCEA, DAAD and the HRK since 2006.

Mike Kuria

New intern at Regional Office

I'm the new volunteer at the DAAD Regional Office for Africa and participant of the "kulturweit" programme, an international volunteer service from the Federal Foreign Office and the German Commission for UNESCO.

I applied for the internship at DAAD because I'm eagerly interested in the international exchange of students and scholars that the DAAD Nairobi facilitates between Eastern Africa and Germany. As a student of German Philology, I want to be involved in promoting German Studies and the German language, which is another goal that the DAAD pursues.



pects.

I'm excited to spent the next five months here and discover more of Kenya's culture, countryside and spirit.

As I have only been in Nairobi for a short time, I haven't experienced much of Kenya yet. But my first impression is that Kenyans are friendly and welcoming people who stand together in a challenging time and who want to further develop Kenya in many as-

Germany: The effects of a DAAD University Summer Course

My trip to Berlin was the best opportunity for me to put sense to what I had been learning in school or



even reading in the media. The summer course at the Free University of Berlin was very international and the participants from 25 nationalities. Four continents were brought together by a common desire to learn and experience the German language and culture.

My favorite meal in the cafeteria was Currywurst. I definitely got a culture shock from some of the things I experienced: I was simply amazed how the public transport system in Germany was efficient and reliable. The buses were always on time and after missing the bus twice, I had to reset my watch five minutes ahead.

I could cross the streets without worrying too much about getting knocked down. Packing my own shopping in the supermarket was also new to me as I was used to always getting assistance from the supermarket employees here in Nairobi. There are so many things I learnt from Berlin but can't mention all of them. The experience has definitely had a positive impact on me and I'm sure I will be doing some things a bit differently from now on. I thank DAAD for the opportunity.

Richmond Embeywa

Kenya: FU Berlin's Vet students explore camels and more

In September a group of 12 veterinary students and one university professor from Berlin travelled to Kenya to visit various research institutions and universities. The aim of the four-week trip was to deepen our knowledge of livestock production and animal health problems in semi-arid and arid regions of Kenya, topics which we discussed in detail during our one-year preparation course at home. We were also interested to gain valuable insight into possible career paths in the area of tropical veterinary medicine as well as the culture and nature of Kenya.

We visited the Faculty of Veterinary Medicine at the University of Nairobi, the Faculty of Agriculture at Egerton University and toured through cutting-edge research facilities such as ILRI, KEVEVAPI, the Central Veterinary Laboratories in Kabete and KARI in Muguga. We were introduced to their work, current research projects as well as their laboratories and experimental units. We also had the chance to interact with veterinary students, professors and farmers of different animal production systems.

To expand our knowledge of livestock production we were invited to the OI Maisor Ranch where we experienced and assisted in veterinary services at the farm. The second half of our trip included the observation of veterinary and developmental research projects of VSF-Germany in North Horr.



This camel proves to be more stubborn than expected.

We are particularly happy about the intercultural exchange with Kenyan students and amazed by their hospitality. We hope to be able to return this favor during a return-visit of Kenyan students to Germany next year.

The trip was partly funded by the [PROMOS Programme](#) of DAAD, a project aiming to enhance the mobility of students and international university exchange.

Helena Wittgenstein



German veterinarians in harmony with Kenyan wildlife

Call: Internships world wide: RISE Research hosts wanted!

DAAD supports undergraduate German students working as research assistants. In the third round of this initiative, DAAD supported over 250 projects and the programme is now returning in 2014. Therefore, **any research groups from all over the world that have interest in hosting a German research assistant in the summer of 2014 are invited to submit project offers on www.daad.de/rise-programs.**

Research groups, laboratories and doctoral students have the option of applying to host a qualified student from Germany as a research intern in their project. The students shall receive training in the fields of biology, chemistry, physics, earth sciences, engineering,

Previous participants have had positive remarks:

"I appreciate very much the enthusiasm and excellent academic preparation of my intern. He did very well in my lab and it was a mutually enjoyable and

medicine or other closely related fields.

German undergraduate students shall gain insight into advanced research work and hence valuable skills and knowledge. The beneficiaries are meant to receive guidance and mentorship. PhD students shall be able to act as mentors to young and upcoming academicians. Moreover, academic partnerships between different universities and learning institutions shall also be established.

Submission of project proposals shall run from October 7, 2013 through November 24, 2013. Duration of the internship: 6 weeks to 3 months. For enquiries: rise-worldwide@daad.de

Tanzania: Speech-Language Pathology on the Way in East Africa

Since May 2012, the Leibniz University of Hanover and the Sebastian Kolowa Memorial University (SEKOMU) in Lushoto, Tanzania have been collaborating on a research project funded by [DAAD's "Welcome to Africa" programme](#). The aim of the cooperation is to jointly establish a 'Child Development Lab' for intervention studies in the field of early childhood education and health as well as inclusive education. The research project is conducted on the base of German-Tanzanian research tandems representing all levels from management to undergraduate students.



German-Tanzanian "Welcome to Africa" team: Prof. Lüdtke, Josephat Semkiwa, Ulrike Schütte

The methodology and first results of the project were presented during the 5th East African Conference on Communication Disability in September in Mombasa. Prof. Lüdtke and Ulrike Schütte from Leibniz University and Josephat Semkiwa from SEKOMU presented their experiences and exchanged ideas with an international scientific community and distinguished experts in the field of communication and speech-language pathology.

Under their supervision, eight students from Hanover continued the collaboration afterwards with the Tanzanian Master students in Lushoto. In April 2013, eight Master students from SEKOMU had travelled to Germany to start the joint intercultural and scientific work. These preparations are now put into practice in Tanzania.

We would be delighted to receive many participants at the 6th East African Conference on Communication Disability in September 2015, which will be jointly hosted by SEKOMU and Leibniz University Hanover in Arusha, Tanzania.

Ulrike Lüdtke & Ulrike Schütte

Call: Returning Experts Workplace equipment subsidy (APA)

The World University Services (WUS) offers workplace equipment for **Returning Expert**.

The programme 'Returning Experts' is conducted by CIM (Centrum für internationale Migration und Entwicklung) on behalf of the BMZ (Bundesministerium für wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und Entwicklung). It is aimed at foreign experts who have successfully completed their studies or training in Germany and would like to put their skills and knowledge into practise in developing or emerging nations.

Returning experts can apply for the provision of APA (Arbeitsplatzausstattung/ Workplace equipment) worth up to 10.000 Euros. They are provided with essential equipment such as computer items, laboratory equipment, software and literature. Not included are copy machines, faxes and phones, furniture in general etc.

For enquiries: www.returning-experts.de/

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