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PhD grant selections

The pre-selection interviews for PhD scholarships to Germany will take place in the region on the following dates:

Tanzania: 25, 26 October

Sudan: 2, 3 November

Ethiopia: 24, 25 November

(Application deadline: **September 30** at the German Embassy in those countries)

In **Kenya**, a final selection will take place for the first time from 17th to 19th November. **Application** deadline: **October 14** at the Regional Office

Editorial

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German Chancellor Angela Merkel recognized academic collaboration between Kenya and Germany

More than 100 DAAD-Alumni present during German Chancellor's speech at the University of Nairobi

During her visit to Kenya on July 12, German Chancellor Angela Merkel addressed an audience at the University of Nairobi which included up to 100 high-profile DAAD Alumni, among them Higher Education Minister Helen Sambili and Kenyan Ambassador to Germany, Ken N. Osinde.

Prime Minister Raila Odinga, who is a DAAD Alumnus, and Chancellor Angela Merkel had met prior to the speech. Other prominent DAAD Alumni include Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Wangari Maathai and CARE East Africa Coordinator Auma Obama.

In her speech, the Chancellor emphasized on, among other issues, the benefits of intercultural exchange to Kenya. "You young people in Kenya, take advantage of the potentials offered by the exchange, be it through German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), studying abroad or learning the German language, broaden your knowledge, come back and build your country." Christoph Hansert, Director of the DAAD Regional Office for Africa in Nairobi, supported her encouragement. "We are very grateful for the German Chancellor's consideration to visit an institution of higher learning. The invaluable



Left to right: German Chancellor Dr. Angela Merkel, ILRI scientist Dr. Rob Skilton, Current DAAD PhD Scholar Rachel Aye

efforts and contributions of students and lecturers were and still are determinants for Kenya's democratic development", he said.

The University of Nairobi is Kenya's oldest and largest university with currently an approximated 50,000 enrolled students. While its foundation is traced back to 1956, well before Kenya's independence, it was declared the first national University in 1970. Today, there are 50 public and private institutions of higher learning in Kenya.

After her speech, Chancellor Merkel visited the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI) where she met DAAD scholars from Eastern Africa, supported in the framework of DAAD's In-region Scholarship Programme.

More than 300 participants in seven PhD Proposal Writing Workshops around Kenya

The Kenya DAAD Scholars Association (KDSA) in collaboration with the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) and National Council for Science and Technology (NCST) successfully completed a Proposal Writing Workshop. The workshop was held at seven centers across Kenya: University of Nairobi, Kenyatta University, Kenya Methodist University, Pwani University College, Egerton University, Maseno University and Moi University.

The workshops were conducted simultaneously on September 16 – 17, 2011 except at Moi University where it was held during September 22 – 23, 2011.



NCST Secretary Prof. Shaukat Abdulrazak, Director DAAD Regional Office for Africa, Christoph Hansert, KDSA member and facilitator Dr. Solomon Derese (from left to right).

Reports from all centers indicated the workshops were attended by all selected participants who were enthusiastic and appreciative of KDSA for the initiative and DAAD and NCST for the sponsorship. KDSA would like to sincerely thank everybody who contributed to the successful training.

KDSA Chairman Dr. Simon Onywere reported from Kenyatta University: „At KU, I have been overjoyed by the turn-out (100%+5 persons who really insisted). We had the privilege of the opening ceremony being graced by the Registrar Academic and the Dean Graduate School and of course the NCST representative. All had very kind words to say about the initiative. The Dean Graduate School remained throughout all the sessions.”

Mohamed Karama from Pwani University sent this comment: “I wish to express my sincere gratitude for the good organisation of the workshop spearheaded by Dr. Halimu Shauri and his team and to express my satisfaction with all the presentations made. It was truly a sharpener of our research methods skills and an eye opener to the world of research funding opportunities available. Asante sana Mungu awabariki juhudi zenu.”

Last but not least, Dr. Bernard Juma describes the workshop at Maseno University as follows: “Maseno venue was also packed with enthusiastic participants (100 % +++++). Yesterday and today, so far things moving right. Lots to learn, only time the limit, interesting interactions cut short, but all well. Thanks to DAAD and NCST.”

To give participants of the KDSA/ NCST proposal writing workshops more time to prepare their PhD applications for Germany, DAAD Nairobi has extended the deadline to hand in application documents for two weeks. The new deadline, both at the DAAD Nairobi and the NCST, is now Friday, October 14.

Please make sure you submit complete documents, including a soft copy of your PhD proposal. Details about the application documents can be obtained [here](#).



Participants of the PhD Proposal Writing Workshop at the University of Nairobi, organised by KDSA and NCST, on 16 September 2011



"SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT - CULTURAL HERITAGE - STUDENT POTENTIAL. WE CARE."

With this motto the International Winter University (IWU) Kassel seeks to address all motivated and qualified undergraduate and graduate students and young professionals interested in the field surrounding the sustainability of global environment and german cultural studies.

From December 29, 2011 to January 19, 2012 the IWU offers two academic seminars including an optional trip to Berlin on New Year's Eve to explore Germany's diverse and exciting capital.

For more information about IWU Kassel and application browse at: <http://www.uni-kassel.de/iwu>.

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND CULTURAL DIPLOMACY

The Institute for Cultural Diplomacy and Dubrovnik International University (DIU) are pleased to announce the graduate Master of Arts program in International Relations and Cultural Diplomacy.

The programme will combine the traditional academic components of international relations with a new focus on the role of soft power and cultural diplomacy in contemporary global affairs. The Institute for Cultural Diplomacy is an international, not-for profit, nongovernmental organization with headquarters in Berlin, Germany. The goal of the ICD is to promote global peace and stability by strengthening and supporting intercultural relations at all levels.

Further information can be found through: www.culturaldiplomacy.org/academy/index.php?en_ma_admissions

"In Germany, I gained a research foundation"

Professor Dominic Makawiti, 56, is both an achieved researcher in biochemistry and the newly appointed Vice-Chancellor of Maseno University, Kenya. 20 years ago, supported by DAAD, he went to Germany for research. This visit had a profound impact on his career, he tells NAIROBI NEWSLETTER.

When and for what purpose did you receive a DAAD grant to Germany?

I went to Germany in 1991 for a research visit of three months to the Justus Liebig University in Giessen. I visited the laboratory of Professor Bernd Hoffmann. Most of the three months, I spent in the laboratory.

What impact did this stay have on your career?

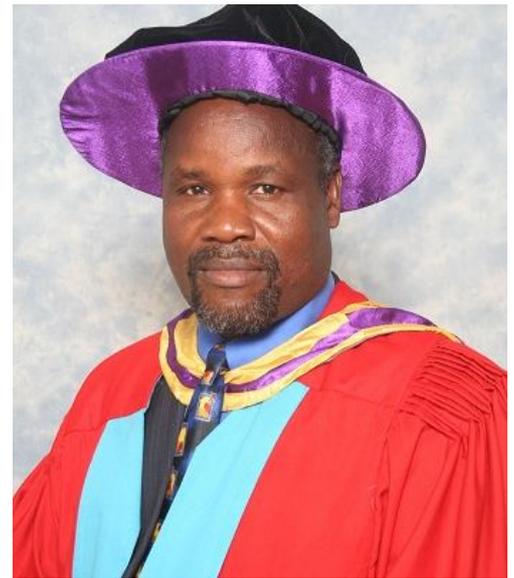
This visit was very important for me. First of all, it was a short post-doctoral training. I perfected certain techniques for measuring small blood, saliva, or faeces. I was later able to use those techniques in my own research. This enabled me to move very very fast up the ranks of the university, because I could do research and publish scientific papers in peer-reviewed journals.

I was able to become senior lecturer, associate professor and eventually full professor. My research stay in Germany also opened opportunities for an administrative career, starting from being chairman of the department, associate dean, dean, Deputy Vice-Chancellor and now I am the Vice-Chancellor of a public university in Kenya.

In short, I gained a research foundation because you have to undertake research and publish in order to excel as a scientist.

What are your most memorable moments of this time in Germany?

It was my first time to spend time in continental Europe. It was very cold. What I remember the most is the hard-working nature of Germans. They work around the clock. People in the lab literally took their coffee breaks on their workstations. They didn't just work because they were employed there, but to strive and to attain success.



I was able to visit the lab where Justus Liebig worked, a very famous chemist after whom the university is named. He invented and left behind the Justus Liebig Condenser. I visited the lab where he made his various discoveries – that was special for me.

However, I also had the opportunity to see the German architecture, old castles and cathedrals like the one in Marburg.

What did you learn as a researcher and lecturer from this visit ?

I had the chance to perfect the mentioned technique, to bring my knowledge back home and apply in my own research. Also, I was able to study the German academic system and the role of a professor in the German system.

I taught many students the technique; I had the chance to supervise 22 Master and PhD students some of whom have become heads of departments in universities and associate professors.

Would you encourage young scientists to do research in Germany, and why?

Germany is virtually the heartbeat of serious academic research. If they get the opportunity to go to Germany, they learn state-of-the-art research procedures.

They also experience the German work ethics: Germans have very high standards of work - nobody waits to be told what to do. Everything is well organised and runs like clockwork. They are self-driven, and that is something one needs to succeed.

www.maseno.ac.ke

DIES Alumni Network East Africa:

Training workshop series in Kenya and Ethiopia commenced

Two kick-off workshops of a series of trainings in the field of higher education management have been carried out successfully from May 19-21, 2011 in Nairobi, Kenya and from July 26-28, 2011 in Jimma, Ethiopia. The national Alumni groups of the Regional East African DIES Alumni Network REAL organised practice-oriented training workshops tackling current needs of the universities in their home countries. Throughout the workshops, the alumni supported and counselled participants in developing individual reform projects at their home universities.

The workshop series in Kenya focuses on higher education management for managers of newly established university colleges and campuses. 24 high-ranking university managers, most of them deputy principals or deans, participate in three consecutive workshops conducted by the Kenyan trainer team of DIES Alumni headed by Professor Hamadi Boga.



Participants of the REAL workshop in Ethiopia

The workshops in Ethiopia are designed to support higher education managers in the introduction and implementation of professional quality assurance (QA) mechanisms at Ethiopian public universities. 20 directors and heads of QA units of public universities and colleges attended the kick-off workshop, which was organised by Dr. Abebaw Gashaw Kebede and his team of DIES Alumni at Jimma University.

Follow-up workshops will be realised towards the end of 2011 and early 2012 with a Regional Conference in between to share experiences among the national chapters, to present results and discuss the way forward.

REAL receives funding and support within the programme "Dialogue on Innovative Higher Education Strategies" (DIES), which has been jointly coordinated by the DAAD and the German Rectors' Conference (HRK) since 2001.



Second round of NCST/ DAAD PhD scholarship holders starts German language course in Kenya

On September 26, nine young Kenyan lecturers started embracing the German language at the Goethe-Institut in Nairobi. We congratulate them and wish them lots of fun while learning German and success for their subsequent research stay in Germany:

Lydia Maruti Waswa, Elizabeth Ndunda, Betty Mayeku, Erick Ronoh, Isaiah Muchilwa, George Owino Odero, James Linturi, Milton M'Arimi and John Agumba.

Prof. Dr. Robert Jüpner is visiting professor at JKUAT Kenya (August 2011—January 2012)

My name is Robert Jüpner and I am working as a professor for hydraulic engineering and water management at the University of Kaiserslautern, Germany. I also am director of the Kaiserslautern Institute for Flood Management and River Engineering. At the moment, I am spending my sabbatical in this beautiful country. Following an invitation of the Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (JKUAT), I am currently appointed as a visiting professor at the Biomechanical Engineering and Environmental Engineering Department.

Why I am here? Kenya is a fascinating country with a lot of challenges especially due to the growing population, the need of using water responsibly as well as cope with floods and droughts. Therefore, I will advise JKUAT to establish and operate a Water Resources and Research Institute to host academic as well as consultant activities in the water management. This will include the cooperation with academic and professional institutions and offer advanced Master and Ph.D. students an excellent background for their research. My activities are supported through the DAAD Advisory Program and I am very grateful for it.

Of course, I am mainly here to learn from my Kenyan colleagues as well as from Institutions like GIZ Water Sector Reform Program and KfW Bank who have a lot of professional experience I am able to benefit from.

My main focus of research is flood risk management. With my extensive experience, I see an immense potential to work in Kenya to support establishing sustainable flood risk management approaches to cope with natural disasters.

In December, the Summer School (quite unusual for a German ☺ as in December, we have winter in Europe) "Water and Sanitation for the Urban Poor" will take place and cover this topic as well. I am especially excited to work within the Topic "Flood Risk Management" together with my colleagues from University Siegen, Kenyatta University, Makerere University and JKUAT as well as Kenyan and German professional partners during those two weeks!

Finally, there is just to say ASANTE SANA for Kenya to give me and my family a warm welcome and the DAAD for supporting my professional activities generously!



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In-Country and In-Region scholarship holders selected

The DAAD Regional Office for Africa welcomes nine new Master and 20 new PhD In-Country scholarship holders in Kenya to the DAAD family. German Ambassador to Kenya, her Excellency Mrs Margit Hellwig-Boette, and Dr. Martina Schulze, Head of the DAAD Subsahara Africa section, will be officially handing over the awards coupled together with the DAAD annual cocktail later in the year.

PhD scholarship holders are:

Sur-name	First Names	University	Programme
Nyaare	Benard Okelo	Bondo University College	Pure Mathematics
Jeruto	Pascaline	Bondo University College	Applied Botany
Ngambi	Catherine Nyawira	Egerton University	Biochemistry
Ananda	Fanon Tumaini	JKUAT (Taita Taveta Campus)	Geomatic Engineering, GIS
Mose	Peter Ogoti	JKUAT	Biochemistry
Kangogo	Mourine Chepkorir	JKUAT	Microbiology
Muriuki	Salome Wamuyu	Kenyatta University	Environmental Sciences
Mugo	Judy Wairimu	Kenyatta University	Public Health
Mburu	Monica Wanjiku	Kimathi University College	Food Science and Technology
Samita	Fidelis Nekesa	Maseno University	Chemistry
Maina	Everline Nyokabi	Maseno University	Special Needs Education
Otiende	Millicent Adhiambo	Maseno University	Horticulture
Wafula	Henry Barasa	Masinde Muliro University	Physics
Kimutai	Stephen Kibet	Moi University	Energy Studies
Ngeno	Vincent	Moi University	Agr. Economics and Resource Management
Adoyo	Duncan Laji	Moi University	Environmental Studies
Mbogo	Rachel Waema	Strathmore University	Biomathematics
Ochieng	Nelson Odunga	Strathmore University	Information Systems Security
Kaindi	Dasel Wambua Mulwa	University of Nairobi	Applied Human Nutrition
Koach	Oscar Kipchirchir	University of Nairobi	Drylands Resource Management

Master scholarships received:

Surname	First Names	University	Programme
Chemwotie	Mercy Jepkogei	Egerton University	Biochemistry
Kagiri	Charles Muiruri	JKUAT	Mechatronic Eng.
Unchuru	Thomas Ogao	Kenyatta University	Biochemistry
Onyando	Zedekiah Odira	Masinde Muliro U	Env. Biology
Muthoni	Gloria Beth	Moi University	Business Mgt
Mbui	Fredrick Mbogo	University of Nairobi	Biochemistry
Mutai	Bethwel Kipkoach	University of Nairobi	Meteorology
Siele	Lily Chepkirui	University of Nairobi	Computer Science
Githinji	Tabitha Wambui	University of Nairobi	Geology

Postdoc scholarships received:

Name	Country	University	Programme
Ibrahim Mustafa Mohammed Ali	Sudan	MPI Halle/Saale	Geography
Elamin Akoy	Sudan	U Göttingen	Agriculture
Sharon Moeno	Lesotho	Charité Berlin	Nanotechnology
Grace Rungunda	Uganda	Leibniz Institute Berlin	Biology
Hisham Ismail Seri Farah	Sudan	TH Hannover	Veterinary Medicine
Gastor Mapunda	Tanzania	U Bayreuth	Linguistics

Name	Country	Host Institute
Maurice Owino Oduor	Kenya	AIMS (South Africa)
Florence Mutua	Kenya	ILRI (Uganda/Kenya)
Ruth Gathu Kathuthia	Kenya	ICIPE (Kenya)
Momo Bangoura	Guinea	IMSP (Burkina Faso)
Eloise du Toit	South Africa	ILRI (Kenya)
Didier Zida	Burkina Faso	ILRI (Kenya)
Lucy Kananu Murungi	Kenya	ICIPE (Kenya)
Bruce Anani Yaovi	Togo	ICIPE (Kenya)
Khogali Izzeldin Idris Elsayed	Sudan	ICIPE (Kenya)
Nelson Onyango	Kenya	ILRI (Kenya)

6th International Ganaa-Workshop Held in Leipzig

The 6th international ganaa workshop was held in Leipzig, Germany from August 29 to September 3 at the University of Leipzig, Germany. Like all the previous five workshops held in Leipzig, Oran, Stellenbosch and Nairobi, this year's workshop benefited from a generous support from DAAD. The theme of the workshop was "Multilingualism and Language Policies in Africa: Facts and Perspectives". Kenya was represented by Dr. Daniel Ochieng Orwenjo (Kenyatta University, Dr Jayne Mutiga, Dr Catherine Agya, (University of Nairobi) and Mr. James Meja Ikobwa (University of Stellenbosch).

The workshop evaluated and discussed research project proposals. Regional and trans-boundary groups were formed to develop project proposals that were deemed to be viable, in anticipation of GANAA moving away from merely holding conferences and workshops to carrying out concrete collaborative research projects capable of attracting funding from donors and other stakeholders.

The ganaa network is not only a platform for academics and researchers, but also for generally everyone who is interested in individual and regional multilingualism and language politics in Africa in regard to indigenous, supra-regional and European foreign languages. The aim of the network is to strengthen and improve the inter-African, as well as the international dialogue. For this reason, ganaa wants to establish a close network between the various regions of Africa and simplify and institutionalise the cooperation between African universities and institutions. For the first time ever the barrier between the Maghreb and sub-Saharan Africa is overcome and research facilities on the whole continent are able to work together. The next workshop is tentatively scheduled to be held at Maseno University, Kenya, in the second half of 2012.

Daniel Orwenjo



Part of the Kenyan delegation engaged in a discussion session

First time in Africa

The new intern at DAAD Nairobi, Isabell Schneider, tells NAIROBI NEWSLETTER why she came to Africa



My name is Isabell Schneider, the new intern at the DAAD Regional Office for Africa. I'm one of 200 "kulturweit"-volunteers leaving Germany this september to engage themselves abroad for six months or a year.

The "kulturweit"programme of the German Federal Foreign Office and the Unesco Commission offers young German adults the chance to work in one of the many German organisations (Goethe-Institut, DAAD, German Schools etc.) all over the world which are engaged in the field of cultural relations and educational policy.

In my hometown Munich I study Social Anthropology at the Ludwig-Maximilians-University. Before finishing my studies next year, I was looking for a possibility to get some practical work experience. As my main subjects in anthropology are transnational migration and the anthropology of education, I thought working in the field of international exchange of students and scholars with the DAAD and thereby getting in touch with students from different fields applying for studies abroad would be a perfect chance. Not at least for experiencing how it is to be a "transnational" myself for some time. So I applied for the "kulturweit" programme and waited a few months without knowing if I'll be accepted and where would be sent.

And finally here I am – happy to be in Africa for the first time! I'm really curious about these six months and happy to have this unique possibility to get to know Kenya, its people, its multifaceted culture and its beautiful landscape as well as to get to know the work of the DAAD in Nairobi. For sure there are many interesting things to discover about Kenya and a lot to learn and bring back to Germany!

DAAD mourns Professor Wangari Maathai

The German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) is mourning its Alumna, Professor Wangari Maathai, who succumbed to cancer on 25th September at a Nairobi hospital at the age of 71.

2004 Nobel Peace prize winner and environmentalist Wangari Maathai has died while undergoing cancer treatment. The political activist is well known for her constant battles with government to protect Kenya's forests. In 1977, Prof. Maathai founded the Green Belt Movement, an environmental non-governmental organization focused on the planting of trees, conservation, and women's rights.

Wangari Muta Maathai was born in Nyeri, Kenya, in 1940. The first woman in East and Central Africa to earn a doctorate degree, Prof. Maathai obtained a Bachelor of Science (B.S.) in Biology from Mount St. Scholastica College in Atchison, Kansas, USA (1964), a Master of Science (M.S.) in Biological Sciences from the University of Pittsburgh, USA (1966), and pursued doctoral studies in Germany and the University of Nairobi before obtaining her Ph.D. in Anatomy in 1971 from the University of Nairobi. In 1976, she became Chair of the Department of Veterinary Anatomy, and a year later, Associate Professor in the Department of Veterinary Anatomy, both at the University of Nairobi - the first woman in the region to attain these positions.

Over the years, she and the Green Belt Movement have received numerous awards, most notably the 2004 Nobel Peace Prize.

She became the first African woman to receive the Nobel Peace Prize for her contribution to sustainable development, democracy and peace.

For more information on Wangari Maathai's work, check out the [Green Belt Movement](#).



„Welcome to Africa“

With this new higher education cooperation program, DAAD wants to give German universities the opportunity to establish new contacts with African universities, as well as expand already existing contacts and encourage exchanges in both directions. The program's priority is the placement of German students, graduates and young scientists for study and research at African universities.

Through "Welcome to Africa" a special focus on Africa is made to provide more research-oriented activities in cooperation with partners from all over sub-Saharan Africa.

For further information and application (up to 31 October 2011) browse the link:

<http://www.daad.de/hochschulen/ausschreibungen/18460.de.html>

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