

ANNOUNCEMENT AND CALL FOR APPLICATION

On behalf of the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) the University of Applied Sciences Trier (UAST), Environmental Campus Birkenfeld, is organizing the

International Germany Alumni Seminar 2020

“Towards circularity: Innovation, Cooperation and Internationalisation of Environmental Technologies via Rhineland-Palatinate”

26 April – 3 May 2020 in Birkenfeld, Rhineland-Palatinate, Germany

followed by the participation in the

IFAT, World's Leading Trade Fair for Water, Sewage, Waste and Raw Materials Management

4 – 9 May 2020 in Munich, Germany

Seminar aims

Living, learning and working in a special place: The Environmental Campus Birkenfeld, a location of the University of Trier, is one of the special university locations in Germany and offers students an interdisciplinary study at a unique "Zero Emission University", in addition to an ecological construction concept has a CO₂-neutral energy and heat supply and state-of-the-art building and plant technology. Founded in 1996, the campus is one of the most successful conversion projects in Rhineland-Palatinate.

This DAAD-funded 2020 Alumni Special Project results directly from the successful activities and projects of the Institute for Applied Material Flow Management (IfaS), as well as from the innovative and interdisciplinary IMAT Masters' Programs. During their studies, IMAT students acquire a wealth of knowledge and experiences that enable them to broaden their skills in solving development-related issues. The large proportion of graduates and students of the IMAT study programs from DAC countries and the great interest in the joint realization of projects show the strong demand for German know-how and German technology in these countries.

The main topics of the IMAT study program and the 2020 Alumni Special Project are based on the Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations, in particular on the following goals:

- Quality education
- Clean water and sanitation
- Affordable and clean energy
- Industry, innovation and infrastructure
- Sustainable cities and communities
- Responsible consumption and production
- Climate action.

The participants should renew and expand their knowledge in the above-mentioned subject areas as part of the planned special project. Through presentations and visits as well as the development of own case studies and the intensive networking with institutions and technology providers from all over Germany, the alumni should contribute in the long term to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals in their present home countries.

The main target group for the advanced training seminar are international graduates from the field of environmental technology degree programs at German universities.

The aim of the planned Alumni Special Project is to bring DAC countries alumni in the areas of clean water and sanitation, affordable and clean energy, industry, innovation and infrastructure, sustainable cities and communities, responsible consumption and climate action up to the latest state of knowledge (state-of-the-art) and to expand the knowledge and networks of the participants.

In order to do justice to the Sustainable Development Goals areas relevant to the planned project, the following topics were planned as part of the two-week program:

- Renewable Energies and Energy Efficiency
- Circular Economy: Integrated Waste Management
- Circular Economy: Integrated Water Resource Management
- Innovation & Networking: From research into action
- Interaction Science - Environment - Climate Change.

These topics will be brought to the attention of alumni through presentations, technical visits, case studies and exchange with experts (from business and academia).

The seminar and trade fair visit are offered by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) in the framework of the program Alumni Special Projects (www.daad.de/alumni-special-projects). The International Germany Alumni Seminar is organized and hosted by the University of Applied Sciences Trier, Environmental Campus Birkenfeld (<https://www.umwelt-campus.de/en/>). The costs will be mainly covered by funds from the DAAD, provided by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ).

Tentative Program

The seminar program in Birkenfeld will include:

- Sessions and workshops
- Presentations from the participating alumni
- Group work activities and professional networking opportunities with scientists and the applied sector
- Excursions and cultural events

At IFAT in Munich there will be the **Conference Waste-Water-Women**, organized by German Association for Water, Wastewater and Waste (DWA), Hennef, Germany. It will take place on 5 May 2020 from 11:15 am to 1:00 pm. Afterwards we will meet for networking at DWA's booth from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm. You will find detailed information later on in the Internet. The conference will be simultaneously translated into English.

If you are a female applicant and interested in speaking on this conference, please write in three sentences per question (Make it short and clear!):

- * What are you working on (current working project)?
- * What exactly would you report about at the Conference Waste-Water-Woman?

The final program will be published once all applications have been reviewed. It is necessary to participate in the whole programme: seminar, trade fair and social program.

Eligibility criteria for participation

This seminar targets international Alumni of German universities

- from countries listed on the [DAC list of 'developing' countries](#),
- who carried out research or studied in Germany for at least 3 months

Note on eligibility for repeated attendances at Alumni Special Projects:

Participation in Alumni Special Projects are limited to a maximum of **2 participations within 4 years**. The year of participation, not the year of application, is decisive for the calculation.

For reference, following is the list of the past Alumni Special Projects:

2016: Biofach, European Conference of tropical Ecology, Hannover Messe, IFAT Munich, Medica

2017: Hidden Hunger, republica, IFAT Africa, Agritechnica

2018: Anuga FoodTec, IFAT Munich, Intersolar Europe, Medica

2019: Hannover Messe, republica, Tropentag, IFAT India

Applicants should have:

- **A relevant academic background in one of the following topics:**

- (1) • Quality education
- (2) • Clean water and sanitation
- (3) • Affordable and clean energy
- (4) • Industry, innovation and infrastructure
- (5) • Sustainable cities and communities
- (6) • Responsible consumption and production
- (7) • Climate action

- **Professional experience and personal interest in one of the following areas:**

research, education, NGOs, government agencies, policy making, project development, local communities, and related stakeholder

- **Skills to act as a potential multiplier** who will present the seminar results in his/her home country and thus disseminate the acquired knowledge as well as develop ideas and projects for regional implementation...

- **Adequate language proficiency in English** which is essential to actively participate in the workshops and discussions as the seminar will be held in the English language

Cost coverage

- International return ticket from and to airport in Germany (lowest possible economy class airfare)
- Train tickets (2nd class): Frankfurt Airport to Birkenfeld
- Transport on excursions
- Accommodation and meals during the stay in Birkenfeld and Munich during the seminar
- Travel health insurance (max. 30 Euro) and visa costs

- Transport from Birkenfeld to Munich
- Transport from the hotel in Munich to the departure airport MUC
- Entrance fees at the Conference in Munich
- Accommodation and most of the living expenses during the conference stay in Munich

Please note: All other costs, such as transport costs from participants' home town to their home airport or travel costs for visa application in the home country have to be borne by the participants. Please also keep in mind that although the greater part of the living expenses is covered during the stay in Birkenfeld and Munich – the remaining part will be borne by participants. Details will be provided by DAAD at the next stage.

Extensions of stays are possible after the Alumni seminar and the IFAT trade fair up to 5 working days and upon submission of a price comparison of the flight.

Higher travel costs than the travel costs granted by the university must be borne by the participant himself.

Additional travel costs, subsistence costs and other additional costs in connection with the extension of the stay must be borne by the participant.

Extensions beyond 5 days must be of a business and of official nature, justified by the participant and documented with a program and details of contact persons at universities, organizations, institutions, companies etc. Approvals for longer stays beyond 5 days are individual decisions of the DAAD on the basis of the submitted reasons of the participant and his/her planned visit program.

Additional travel costs, subsistence costs and other additional costs in connection with the extension of the stay must be borne by the participant. Applicants should keep in mind to organise accommodation for the extension period by themselves and to have a valid health insurance for these extra days.

Travel dates:

26 April 2020: Arrival at the venue in Birkenfeld, Rhineland-Palatinate, Germany

3 May 2020: Travel from Birkenfeld to Munich

9 May 2020: Departure from Munich, Bavaria, Germany

Application procedure

Your application (in English language) should emphasize your motivation and personal/professional benefit for your participation. You should illustrate how you are planning to imply the gained knowledge and what possible stakeholders for collaboration you may identify for your professional career.

Please submit your **online application** via the application platform:

<https://www.stoffstrom.org/registration/?lang=en>

Application Deadline: 15 January 2020

In addition to the **application form**, please submit your **CV with photograph and relevant documentation of alumni status.**

The PDF-document should be named 'Last name_First name_country' (e.g. Smith_John_England).

Documents can be either uploaded on the application platform or sent by email to: alumni-2020project@umwelt-campus.de.

Please mention in your application **whether you have already registered for IFAT 2020** – however, this **does not affect your eligibility as participant** of the alumni seminar. In general, the DAAD is responsible for the registration for the conference.

Please note: Completeness of personal data mentioned in the application form will affect your eligibility as a participant.

After the review by the local organizing committee and DAAD, the invited participants will be notified **end January 2020**.

For further questions, please contact Aurélie KONO (a.kono@umwelt-campus.de, +49 (0) 6782 17 2603).

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DAAD Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst
German Academic Exchange Service

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