



Extension of Call for Proposals

DAAD Graduate School 'Performing Sustainability: Cultures and Development in West Africa'

The interdisciplinary Graduate School 'Performing Sustainability: Cultures and Development in West Africa' is a collaborative training network for postgraduate students by the University of Hildesheim (Germany), the University of Maiduguri (Nigeria) and the University of Cape Coast (Ghana). The initiative is funded by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) and focuses on innovative research that brings together approaches from performance, arts and culture to bear on sustainable development as defined in the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). A specific focus of the Graduate School is on issues of peace and conflict resolution.

We hereby announce the availability of six 2-year scholarships for Master in Cultural Sustainability at the Centre for the Study and Promotion of Cultural Sustainability, University of Maiduguri, Nigeria. The scholarships will commence in October 2018. More specifically, we call for proposals for the following available scholarships:

6 Master scholarships at the University of Maiduguri (Nigeria)

The Graduate School will be based on one year course work and two intensive research workshops held annually at the Universities of Maiduguri and Cape Coast (Ghana). During the two-week workshops, experts from various areas will teach specific topics related to the research subjects and methodology for all scholarship holders. Participants in the Graduate School will pay the respective tuition fees for the programs they are enrolled in, but all costs in relation to the Graduate School (workshops, access to library and technical material) will be covered. Scholarship holders will additionally receive a monthly stipend.

Focus of Research Proposals

Research proposals may focus on various topics connecting performance, arts and artistic/cultural expressions in relation to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Africa, such as:

- The role of artistic and cultural expressions in processes of conflict transformation and peace building (e.g. applied cinema, theatre, music, performance, fine arts, literature, media)

- Conflict transformation and social equality (e.g. actions for righteous participation and self-determination of gender, reconciliation building after the end of violent conflicts, promoting physical / mental healing processes within the society)
- The prevention of violent conflicts (e.g. promoting of tolerance between ethnic groups and religions, the conservation and protection of the diversity of cultural expressions, averting social exclusion and violence due to diseases and epidemics)
- Peacekeeping (e.g. securing land and land use rights, reconciliation after violent conflicts, stopping and preventing environmental degradation and resource exploitation, educating about climate change and social challenges)

The research projects should be conducted in local contexts and be directed towards solving problems voiced by local agents and stakeholders. Projects should therefore include an applied aspect aiming at sustainable, mid- and long-term solutions in the fields of education, socio-cultural development or cultural policy.

Target Group

The Graduate School offers the opportunity to learn and exchange experiences in an international academic environment with scholars from Nigeria, Ghana and Germany. It is targeting qualified young scholars and students. It is addressed to qualified young scientists and students.

Application and Selection Process

A precondition for entering the Graduate School is a researched Bachelor degree in the humanities, social sciences, cultural sciences or cultural policy. This must meet the admission requirements of the Centre for the study and Promotion of Cultural Sustainability at the University of Maiduguri.

The working language of the Graduate School is English; a very good command of English in oral and written communication is mandatory. Candidates apply with a project proposal (maximum five pages) which must include issues and topics clearly related to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The proposal should also contain the following information: description of the current situation/state of research, the resulting research questions and the intended research methods, a list of the relevant literature and other potential research materials (e.g. documents, interviews, sound archives, media sources), a description of the targeted results and ideas for an applied project based on the outcome of the research.

Candidates will be selected based on their qualification and motivation. **Special emphasis is placed on gender balance.** We particularly encourage women and people with diverse backgrounds to apply. International applicants are eligible to apply but requested to relocate to Maiduguri for the study period.

The deadline for application is 15th October, 2018. No application after this date will be accepted. The extension became necessary to give more room for more candidates **(especially females for gender balance)** to apply. **This is to meet the requirements of the funding body.**

To apply please send the following documents to:
daad-sdg@uni-hildesheim.de

- Research project proposal (maximum 5 pages)
- Motivation letter (2 pages) stating qualifications and interest and also indicating the specific graduate program the applicant wishes to enrol in
- CV in English
- Certificates and other relevant credentials
- 2 letters of academic reference

Selection will take place in October 2018.

We are looking forward to receiving your application. Please do not hesitate to contact us for further inquiry.

Contact

University of Maiduguri (Nigeria), Department of Visual and Performing Arts: Dr. Christopher Mtaku (mtaku@unimaid.edu.ng)

University of Hildesheim (Germany), Center for World Music: Dr Nepomuk Riva (nepomuk.riva@uni-hildesheim.de); UNESCO Chair Cultural Policy for the Arts in Development: Meike Lettau (lettau@uni-hildesheim.de)



The Graduate School is supported by the DAAD with funds from the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and jointly organized by the University of Hildesheim (Germany), the University of Maiduguri (Nigeria) and the University of Cape Coast (Ghana).

