



Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst
German Academic Exchange Service

DRAFT

**60 years of German-Kenyan diplomatic relations
50 Years of German-East African Science and Research Cooperation**

Status quo and perspectives

Nairobi, 20. September 2023

Organised by:

The DAAD Regional Office for East Africa, Nairobi



In September 2023, the DAAD regional office for East Africa will be 50 years old. For half a century, the DAAD through its staff, lecturers, and a large alumni network, has been providing information in Eastern Africa about Germany as a choice destination for higher education study and research, and advising on funding opportunities, scholarships and university cooperation. Germany enjoys a good reputation as an economic, political, and universities partner country.

[Home - DAAD Kenya \(daad-kenya.org\)](https://daad-kenya.org)

The German Embassy Nairobi



The German-East African academic relations, together with the 60 years of diplomatic relations, have shaped the biographies of many alumni and are visible in the regional diversity, including the diversity of cultures, disciplines and academic traditions.

<https://nairobi.diplo.de/>



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With participation of:



Megatrends Afrika: African states and societies are undergoing profound transformations. Global megatrends are driving or influencing such processes of transformation. Megatrends are long-term structural changes that largely escape political control. They have profound effects on social, economic, and political orders. The project “Megatrends Afrika” seeks to develop ideas for German and European cooperation with African partners that help to make ongoing transformations fairer and more sustainable. Megatrends Afrika is a joint project of the German Institute for International and Security Affairs (SWP), the German Institute for Development and Sustainability (IDOS) and the Kiel Institute for the World Economy (IfW).

[Megatrends Afrika - Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik \(swp-berlin.org\)](http://swp-berlin.org)

Funded by:



The Federal Ministry of Research and Education launched Research in Germany in 2006 through which it supports targeted measures to promote Germany as a leading destination location for research and innovation. The key aim is to raise awareness of the opportunities which Germany offers to international researchers and innovators. The BMBF funds a consortium of the German Academic Exchange Service, German Research Foundation and Fraunhofer under the Research in Germany initiative.

[Research in Germany - Research in Germany \(research-in-germany.org\)](http://research-in-germany.org)



Federal Ministry
of Education
and Research



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Concept Note

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Context

In September 2023, the DAAD regional office for East Africa will celebrate its 50th anniversary. For half a century, the DAAD, with its staff, lecturers and a large science network, has been providing information in Eastern Africa about Germany as a destination for study and research and promoting funding opportunities, scholarships and university cooperation. Germany is a well-respected partner country for higher education, for business and in political relations. German-East African academic relations, together with diplomatic relations, which look back on 60 years in 2023, have shaped the biographies of many African academics and alumni and are visible in the regional diversity, in the diversity of cultures, subject disciplines and academic traditions.

Objectives

On the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the AS Nairobi with regional responsibility for East Africa, German-East African academic and research relations are to be highlighted: Status quo, presentation of ongoing projects and cooperations and discussion on future cooperation and perspectives for even stronger research activities. The focus will be on topics related to the SDGs and politically relevant for the global South (climate change, food security, health care, access to education, freedom of science, etc.). The political context with 60 years of diplomatic relations forms the framework for the panel discussions and poster exhibition.

Presentations will be given on current developments in Germany as a research destination, scientific relations will be examined in a timeline of the last 50 years and perspectives for future university and research cooperation will be discussed.

Participants

Researchers and scientists who are involved in German-East African scientific relations are invited to the Science Forum Nairobi from all countries within the responsibility of the DAAD regional office - Ethiopia, Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, South Sudan, Uganda and Tanzania. Representatives from politics, ministries, business and civil society will be involved in the forum. Attention will be paid to a balanced distribution according to subject areas, funding programmes, gender and age.



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Scientists and scholars can subscribe to the forum. Participation is free of charge. The organisers do not cover travel and accommodation costs.

Event format

The one-day event on 20 September 2023 is planned with attendance for up to 100 researchers and guests. The hybrid format with livestreaming will allow as many other researchers from the region and partners from Germany to participate. There will be a kick-off event with greetings and a keynote address, two panel discussions, presentations on the scientific landscape in Germany and East Africa, and a poster gallery walk.

Conference language: English

Event planning and organisation

The DAAD Nairobi Office in cooperation with the German Embassy Nairobi is responsible for event planning and implementation.

Accompanying activity

A jubilee page with the history and chronology of 50 years of DAAD work in East Africa and with 50 alumni portraits was launched on the DAAD Nairobi website.

Link to the anniversary website: <https://www.daad-kenya.org/en/50-years-daad-in-ea/>

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