Alumni Special Projects
for Germany Alumni from the Global South (BMZ)

Germany Alumni as experts, policymakers and partners for Germany abroad – results of an Alumni Follow-Up Survey 2019/2020

Contribution to the 2030 Agenda
All Alumni Special Projects contribute to the SDG goals of “Quality Education” (SDG 4) and “Partnerships for the Goals” (SDG 17).

Topics of the Alumni Special Projects and projects carried out in 2018 and 2019
- Water / Water Management / Sewage / Waste / Recycling
  - IFAT 2018, Munich
  - IFAT India 2019, Mumbai
- Food / Food Security / Food Technology / Rural Development
  - Anuga FoodTec 2018, Cologne
- Biodiversity / Ecology
  - Tropentag 2019, Kassel
- Renewable Energies / Climate Protection
  - The Smarter E Europe / Intersolar 2018, Munich
  - HANNOVER MESSE 2019, Hanover
- Education / Lifelong Learning / Information and Communication Technology
  - re:publica 2019, Berlin
- Medicine / Public Health
  - MEDICA 2018, Duesseldorf

What’s next? Further trade fairs and congresses, in the framework of which Alumni Special Projects are planned (approx. 4 / year)
- International Green Week
- Mekong River Commission Summit
- International Circular Economy Week
- Online Educa Berlin
- DMEA – Connecting Digital Health
- Global Learning Council Summit
- IFAT Africa
- EuroTier
- BIOFACH
- European Conference of Tropical Ecology
- MEDICAL FAIR THAILAND
- Intersolar South America

2,116 Alumni applied
393 Alumni participated in the projects of which 36% are women
230 Alumni participated in the follow-up survey

8 Alumni Special Projects were carried out
16 German higher education institutions were involved
32% Sub-Saharan Africa
10% Middle East, North Africa
8% Eastern Europe, Central Asia and South Caucasus
30% Asia, Pacific
20% Latin America
8% Eastern Europe, Central Asia and South Caucasus
10% Sub-Saharan Africa
20% Latin America

Supported by the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development
Sectors in which the Alumni are currently employed

- Science and research: 40%
- Public sector / government: 21%
- NGOs / development organisations: 17%
- Private sector / business: 14%
- Other sectors: 8%

Alumni Special Projects enhance competencies, train multipliers and help establishing ongoing contacts

- 100% of the Alumni have enhanced problem-solving competencies for development-related issues.
- 93% are actively sharing the knowledge they acquired during the project.
- 84% actively participate in specialist networks.
- 76% have maintained contacts with science and research.
- 57% have maintained contacts with businesses.

93% of the Alumni have shared their knowledge with others (multiple answers possible)

- As a teacher in higher education with colleagues: 14 Alumni
- With members of a specialist network in another way: 91 Alumni
- No response: 12 Alumni

Since completing their training the Alumni have initiated activities themselves (multiple answers possible)

- Informal activities / conversations
- Initiating projects
- Organising and realising events
- Preparing documents and publications
- Other activities
- No response

137 Alumni
88 Alumni
73 Alumni
67 Alumni
19 Alumni
13 Alumni

Alumni Special Projects

Germany Alumni have completed part of their academic education in Germany and represent a group of people with excellent qualifications and particularly favourable attitudes towards Germany. With Alumni Special Projects the Alumni stay up to date with the latest developments and we stay in contact with them.

Both the seminar and IFAT India were significant to my professional and personal development. Networking with colleagues from other Asian countries created strong regional connections through which we can share information and learn from each other.

I entered into a partnership with a German company in the field of renewable energies. German businesses also provide high quality information. (Alumna/us of Intersolar 2018)

I try to work with German businesses to solve technical problems or on specific jobs, such as [...] building piles for the new airport in Lima. I use German software for the structural engineering [...] and for foundations that were designed by a German company. (Alumna/us of re:publica 2019)

I initiated the digitization of most of our business processes. Today, as a result of my participation in re:publica 19, our processes have become leaner through software and spreadsheets.

The data included in the follow-up survey covers all eight Alumni Special Projects that were undertaken at German higher education institutions in 2018 and 2019 and which were funded by the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). Date basis: Follow-up survey of 393 Alumni in 2019 and 2020, approx. 1–1.5 years after their participation in Alumni Special Projects.