

POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP ANNOUNCEMENT 2023

WITHIN THE:

“Network of Excellence on Land Governance in Africa”

Programme Objectives

The German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) is funded by the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) as commissioned by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) to organize support measures for the "Network of Excellence for Land Governance in Africa (NELGA)".

NELGA is a partnership of African universities and research institutions with proven leadership in education, training and research on land governance. Currently, NELGA has more than 70 partner institutions across Africa. For an overview of partner universities and institutions [click here](#).

The objectives of NELGA are:

- Enhancing training opportunities and curricula on land governance in Africa;
- Promoting demand driven research on land policy;
- Connecting scholars and researchers across Africa;
- Creating data and information for monitoring and evaluation on land policy reforms;
- Strengthening policy-research linkages.

DAAD is offering postdoctoral research fellowships at African universities and research institutions

Eligible Applicants

We invite postdoctoral scientists with completed PhD degrees from central institutions of land policy in Africa to apply for funding for **NELGA postdoctoral fellowships**.

Applicants must

- have completed their PhD degree at a state or state-recognized institution of higher education;

- have a background in land governance/ land management or a related field (e.g. land administration, land economics, urban and regional planning, geomatics);
- be nationals of an African country;
- be granted leave of absence by their home institution for conducting a field study or research stay abroad;
- return to their research/duty station at the end of the fellowship;

Female applicants and candidates from less privileged regions or groups are especially encouraged to apply.

Eligible Fields

Special consideration will be given to proposals that address the cross-cutting issues outlined in the factsheet accompanying this call.

If you are not sure if your research field is fitting, do not hesitate to contact DAAD for consultation.

Place of Tenure

The fellowships are tenable in the field, at a state or state-recognized institution of higher education or a non-university research institute in any African country. If the selected institution is not the home institution, it should be willing to host the fellow during his/her research stay and to provide adequate assistance. The terms of cooperation at the host institution must have been clarified and documented prior to the research stay.

Duration

The fellowships are tenable for a period of maximum 12 months. Only full months are fundable. The fellowship is not renewable.

Value

The basic fellowship consists of:

- a monthly rate of EUR 800;
- a virtual training workshop on Advocacy for Research Output

In Addition, support for the following may be granted upon request (subject to availability of funds):

- Reimbursement of expenses for scientific publications in relevant journals up to a maximum of EUR 1500.

Access to the NELGA network at the national, regional, and continental level through i.e. virtual and in person events, conferences, and workshops will be provided and organized by the network.

Terms and Conditions

One month after the end of the fellowship the fellow must provide a detailed report on the implementation of the research and its findings (a template will be provided). The fellowship is not renewable. Funding is only eligible once per year, per topic and per educational stage.

Application Procedure

Applicants will be required to:

1. register online via the DAAD-Portal (if not already registered): <https://portal.daad.de/>
2. apply online under the following link: [Click here](#)

For technical questions regarding the DAAD-Portal, please contact portal@daad.de.

Documents to be submitted

- DAAD application form, duly filled (available in the DAAD-Portal);
- Curriculum Vitae (please use the Europass specimen form at <http://europass.cedefop.europa.eu>)
- list of publications (if applicable);
- letter of motivation;
- detailed description of the research proposal and a description of previous research work (max. 10 pages);
- weekly schedule of planned research work;
- description of the expected results and application-oriented outputs (incl. ideas for the transition of the findings into society and policy);
- copies of Master's diplomas/certificates (with final grades) and transcripts of record of all annual academic examinations (incl. explanation of grading system);
- copies of PhD diploma/certificate (with final grade and transcripts of record, if applicable) incl. explanation of grading system;

- two recent reference letters from university teachers which provide information about the applicant's qualifications;
- proof of teaching/work experience/internships (if applicable);
- letter confirming supervision by an academic adviser at the host or home institute, which refers to the applicant's proposal and confirms that the host or home institute will provide a workplace (not applicable for studies in the field).

Deadlines

The following deadline applies:

Deadline	Start of the fellowship
4.September 2023	1. January 2024

Selection Criteria

Applications will be reviewed by an independent selection committee consisting of experts in the relevant fields.

The performance-based assessment will consider:

- A convincing and well-planned research project (incl. preliminary work undertaken, the relevance of the topic for research and application-oriented outputs, choice of methods and work equipment, the fit of the facilities and support offered by the host institution, appropriateness of the time-schedule, motivation);
- academic achievements (incl. scientific and other qualifications, consistency of the proposal with further scientific qualification and long-term career planning);
- consistency of the proposal with the objectives of the NELGA (incl. relevance for policy linkages, transferability of expected results into policy)

Any additional documents supporting the academic relevance of the research proposal or providing information about pertinent extracurricular activities of the applicant will also be considered in the assessment.

Contacts

For questions concerning the **application process** please contact

- Ms Eva Rothenpieler (rothenpieler@daad.de)

For questions concerning the **NELGA** please contact

- Mr Roland Hubner (roland.hubner@giz.de)



NELGA Postdoctoral Fellowship

Overview

The Network of Excellence on Land Governance in Africa (NELGA) is a partnership of over 70 leading African universities and research institutions with proven leadership in education, training and research on land governance. The network is established by the African Land Policy Centre (ALPC), formerly Land Policy Initiative (LPI), in cooperation with Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) with financial support from the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). The purpose of NELGA is to enhance the role of African universities and researchers in the field of land policy and land management, with due regard to marginalised groups, smallholders, pastoralists and women.

- Enhancing training opportunities and curricula on land governance in Africa;
- Promoting demand driven research on land policy;
- Connecting scholars and researchers across Africa;
- Creating data and information for monitoring and evaluation on land policy reforms;
- Strengthening policy-research linkages.

NELGA Postdoctoral Fellowships

The German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) supports NELGA through a fellowship programme available for young scientists from African Union member states.

Young scientists with completed PhD degrees are eligible to apply for a one-year funding period in the field, at a state or state-recognized institution of higher education or a non-university research institute in any African country. To ensure the transfer of research results to society and policy, the fellowship will be accompanied by support measures for scientific publications and trainings in science communication.

Emphasis will be given to research projects addressing the following key areas:

- Institutions and Land Transactions
- Tenure Rights
- Survey and Land Information Management

Each of these four key areas has set subcategories. Proposals need to cover one of the subcategories to be considered for a research fellowship. Research proposal will be evaluated based on their academic quality and the policy relevance of the suggested topic and methodology. The research proposal shall clearly highlight, how the findings can contribute to improve land policies and land governance systems on a national, regional, or continental level. Proposals with integrated cross-cutting issues including gender, climate change, customary land rights, and digital solutions for land issues are strongly encouraged.

Institutions and land transactions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Land policy development processes ▪ Institutional arrangements ▪ Land transactions ▪ Corruption in land governance
Tenure rights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Land tenure rights ▪ Women land rights ▪ Conflicts/Disputes
Survey and LIM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Cadaster/Geomatics ▪ Land information management
Social economic aspects of land governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Social-economic trends in land governance ▪ Titling, land markets, land use and climate change ▪ Large scale land based investment

Contact

For more detailed information on funding opportunities, application requirements and processes please contact the DAAD:

Ms Eva Rothenpieler (rothenpieler@daad.de)
<https://www.daad.de/en/slga/>

