



# DAAD PROGRAMMES AND SERVICES FOR ALUMNI



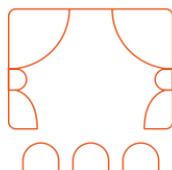
**DAAD**

Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst  
German Academic Exchange Service



## 2,000,000

The DAAD is the world's largest funding organisation promoting the international exchange of students and researchers. Since 1950 the DAAD has provided support to more than two million academics.



## 200

Over 200 alumni events take place around the world each year. These are organised by the DAAD, individual alumni and alumni associations.



## 160

More than 160 alumni associations worldwide ensure that DAAD alumni stay in contact with each other and with the DAAD.



## 2,000

More than 2,000 DAAD alumni benefit from the Scientific Literature Programme each year.

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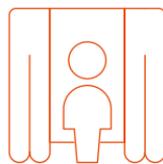
Goals and Focuses

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18

DAAD alumni often hold key positions in academia, society and politics. Numerous prominent and successful alumni belong to the DAAD alumni network. 18 DAAD alumni are Nobel laureates. (as of December 2019)



15,000

Every year around 15,000 people participate in alumni events organised or funded by the DAAD.

# THE ALUMNI ACTIVITIES OF THE DAAD: GOALS AND FOCUSES

- *Maintaining strong alumni relations is key to the DAAD. DAAD alumni play a vital role in initiating and deepening international partnerships in science, business and society. Their professional and personal connections as well as their work experience in Germany and abroad provide the backbone to lasting, mutually beneficial relations.*

The central aim of DAAD alumni activities is to foster the relationship that former scholarship holders have developed with Germany or their host country, to build an active and steadily expanding global network that reaches across academia and society, and to work together with alumni as partners. Doing this the DAAD responds to the wish expressed by many alumni to keep in touch with the DAAD. The DAAD alumni network enables individual alumni to channel their experience and support back to the DAAD and future generations of scholarship holders and alumni, and to contribute to academic and social discourse.



### **The DAAD alumni programmes and services aim to:**

- promote networking among alumni and with the DAAD as well as German universities and institutions
- work together with alumni in selecting candidates for the DAAD scholarship programmes and developing DAAD programmes
- encourage alumni to act as multipliers and advisors for scientific/academic cooperation
- support alumni in furthering international dialogue and intercultural understanding
- invite alumni to participate in cooperative initiatives that aim to solve global challenges

### **The focuses of the DAAD alumni activities are to:**

- cultivate early and lifelong contact with DAAD scholarship holders through high-quality support services. This includes advice on handing in applications and preparing for visits abroad, and assistance throughout one's stay abroad until the return home.
- promote professional, theme-based networking by organising and funding alumni seminars and supporting alumni associations, augmented by digital networking measures
- develop cross-border networking at the regional level and between German and international alumni
- encourage alumni to share and give back expertise and support through suitable platforms
- support alumni in developing key competences
- promote communication with DAAD alumni, among DAAD alumni, and about DAAD alumni

The DAAD defines DAAD alumni as individuals who have verifiably received at least three months of individual funding from the DAAD. Some DAAD alumni services are also targeted at alumni of German universities and so-called "Germany alumni", i.e. individuals who have lived, studied or conducted research in Germany. The alumni programmes each have their own specific criteria.



*My DAAD-funded study visit to New Zealand was an important step on my path to the world of science. It enabled me to gain crucial international experience for my future career. In science – as is often the case in life – we can only truly understand something by looking beyond one’s horizon for a change in perspective.*

**Alexander Gerst**  
geophysicist, volcanologist  
and astronaut



SERVICES FOR  
DAAD ALUMNI

# 1. SERVICES FOR DAAD ALUMNI

## *Information and communication*

### **Alumni service area**

When you visit our website, you can register in our service area to take advantage of a wide range of services. Also remember to update your contact data to ensure that we can continue informing you about relevant programmes and services. You can also subscribe to our alumni magazine LETTER, sign up for specialist literature or obtain a free email address (@daad-alumni.de).

→ [www.daad.de/alumni-service/en](http://www.daad.de/alumni-service/en)

### **LETTER**

Our DAAD alumni magazine features fascinating stories on science, culture, Germany and the DAAD alumni network. LETTER is published three times a year in German and English and is free of charge to all DAAD scholarship holders and alumni. You can subscribe to the print version by logging into the service area for DAAD alumni on our website. You can also read the digital version online at:

→ [www.daad.de/letter/en](http://www.daad.de/letter/en)

### **Alumniportal Deutschland**

On the Alumniportal Deutschland you can connect with other alumni as well as German and international organisations and companies. Become a part of our worldwide alumni community. Join groups with fellow alumni in your field, learn about the latest international job offers and career opportunities and take advantage of our free German language learning programmes. The Alumniportal Deutschland is a joint project of the DAAD, the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation and the Goethe-Institut.

→ [www.alumniportal-deutschland.org/en](http://www.alumniportal-deutschland.org/en)

## *Events by and for alumni*

### **Major alumni meetings**

Alumni meetings are networking events open to former DAAD scholarship holders of all disciplines. Every year the DAAD organises five to ten major national or regional alumni meetings in various countries around the world. At least one major meeting is held annually in Germany and is usually targeted at professionals in selected fields. Participation in a major alumni meeting is only possible by invitation from the DAAD.

→ [www.daad.de/alumni-events](http://www.daad.de/alumni-events)

### **Smaller alumni events**

In addition to the events offered by the DAAD, you can also organise an alumni event yourself, for which you can apply for financial support from the DAAD. To be eligible for funding, the event must have a professional or thematic focus, and a majority of the participants must be DAAD alumni. We also fund regional alumni events. Networking measures and activities that accompany or follow an event are particularly encouraged.

→ [www.daad.de/grants-alumni-events](http://www.daad.de/grants-alumni-events)

### **Alumni Special Projects for alumni from developing countries**

Have you completed part of your academic training in Germany? Do you wish to establish contact with a German university and further develop your specialist skills? If so, our Alumni Special Projects might be the perfect opportunity for you. These projects allow you to participate with other alumni in a specialist seminar at a German university and subsequently visit a selected trade fair or conference.

→ [www.daad.de/alumni-special-projects](http://www.daad.de/alumni-special-projects)

## *Individual support for alumni*

### **Re-invitation Programme**

Would you like to return to Germany for a short time to work or conduct research? Are you already in contact with a host institution or cooperation partner? The DAAD Re-invitation Programme offers former international long-term scholarship holders the opportunity to complete a work or research stay for up to three months in Germany.

→ [www.daad.de/re-invitation](http://www.daad.de/re-invitation)

### **Scientific Literature Programme**

Are you interested in improving your professional knowledge and language skills? Former international long-term DAAD scholarship holders can apply to receive specialist literature once a year. To be eligible for funding, the literature should – if possible – be published by a German publisher. You can submit your applications online via the alumni service area.

→ [www.daad.de/scientific-literature](http://www.daad.de/scientific-literature)

### **Small Equipment Programme**

Are you returning to your home country after receiving scholarship funding and now wish to continue the project you began in Germany? Have you already been offered a position at a university or research institute in your home country and find yourself lacking access to necessary small equipment or research related material? If you apply within eight weeks prior to the end of your scholarship, the DAAD can offer a grant to cover the cost of such small equipment and material.

→ [www.daad.de/small-equipment](http://www.daad.de/small-equipment)

## *Giving back and sharing*

### **DAAD Alumni & Friends**

DAAD Alumni & Friends are committed to promoting a vibrant welcoming culture. Their volunteer members organise events for DAAD scholarship holders and alumni in about 30 university cities around Germany. Most of the 1,200 members of the organisation are former scholarship holders themselves who have previously experienced the hospitality of their foreign hosts. In addition to events and a variety of trips, DAAD Alumni & Friends organise a programme called “Germany Behind the Scenes” whereby host families invite scholarship holders to their homes or take them to rare and interesting places. Are you interested in joining our circle and getting to know DAAD alumni and scholarship holders from around the world? Then simply join the regional group in your area!

→ [www.daad-freundeskreis.de/en](http://www.daad-freundeskreis.de/en)

### **DAAD-Stiftung**

Are you grateful for the valuable experience you gained abroad on your DAAD scholarship? Would you like to give something back by supporting young, talented people from your country and elsewhere around the world? You can do so by personally sponsoring a scholarship or project, either as a single donor or as part of a group. The DAAD-Stiftung also offers other funding schemes, e.g. the Emergency Fund which helps students and researchers who experience financial hardship through no fault of their own.

### **Please send your donation to:**

IBAN: DE35 3804 0007 0112 6499 00, Commerzbank Bonn

→ [www.daad-stiftung.de/en](http://www.daad-stiftung.de/en)



*The DAAD helped us make the most of our potential. We are delighted that we can now share our knowledge and experience with other alumni and future scholarship holders. Over the past 20 years our association has organised numerous theme-based events with funding from the DAAD. These have promoted professional and personal exchange and networking between our members.*

**Dr. med. Marcelle Herilala,**  
chairwoman of the DAAD Alumni  
Association of Madagascar



SERVICES  
FOR ALUMNI  
ASSOCIATIONS

## 2. ALUMNI ASSOCIATIONS

- *More than 160 alumni associations around the world are cultivating contact among alumni as well as with the DAAD. These associations are valuable partners who are committed to international exchange and initiate local alumni activities. Their commitment plays a significant role in sustaining the DAAD scholarship programmes.*

As varied as they may be, all DAAD alumni associations have two things in common: their members possess extensive international experience and volunteer their time and effort to promote international exchange. For example, they organise alumni events, provide information about scholarship programmes and Germany as a destination for study and research. They report about their host countries and offer support and advice to current and prospective scholarship holders.



## *Support measures*

As independent organisations the alumni associations are responsible for managing their own activities, structures and specific objectives. The DAAD supports their work and networking activities through a variety of funding and support schemes, e.g.:

- funding for professional and theme-based alumni events
- funding for publications produced by alumni associations
- funding for IT equipment (one time only)
- inclusion and presentation in the alumni association database on the DAAD website
- sharing experience with representatives of other alumni associations through online networking on the Alumniportal Deutschland
- joint events for DAAD alumni associations from around the world
- information on DAAD programmes and services which could be relevant to the members and/or the association's activities

The DAAD provides support to alumni associations on the condition that their members are largely comprised of former DAAD scholarship holders and preferably that the association is officially recognised in accordance with national law. Are you interested in networking with DAAD alumni in the long term and becoming involved in an alumni association? Then you are welcome to contact the alumni association in your area:

→ [www.daad.de/alumni-associations](http://www.daad.de/alumni-associations)



*Without DAAD funding there would be no GOAL Network. This organisation of Latin American geoscientists helps German researchers establish helpful contacts in Latin America and enables alumni to keep their contacts with German universities alive. Thanks to this professional exchange, both sides gain qualification and motivation and the chance to engage in new collaborations.*

**Prof. Dr. Jörg Matschullat**  
TU Bergakademie Freiberg



FUNDING PROGRAMMES  
FOR GERMAN  
UNIVERSITIES

# 3. FUNDING PROGRAMMES FOR GERMAN UNIVERSITIES

## *Alumni programme to support and maintain ties with international alumni*

Do you wish to strengthen your ties with international alumni of your university? Would you like to help your alumni improve their professional skills and engage with each other in academic networks both in their own country and internationally? Or does your institution need to create and maintain an alumni database? Would you like to produce publicity material for alumni or expand your alumni services using social media? We can help you to obtain funding to hold professional training seminars for alumni and to finance additional measures to improve cooperation with international alumni.

### **What measures are eligible for funding?**

The DAAD offers two programme components which can be combined with one another:

1. Professional training events for international alumni in Germany and abroad
2. Additional activities for improving the cooperation with international alumni

### **Who can apply?**

German universities as well as spin-offs/subsidiaries of German universities

→ [www.daad.de/alumni-programme](http://www.daad.de/alumni-programme)

## *Alumni Special Projects for Germany alumni from developing countries*

Are you interested in intensively collaborating with experts from developing and emerging countries? Has your university demonstrated a commitment to a thematic area which could significantly advance the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals? If so, you can apply for DAAD funding to host and carry out an Alumni Special Project.

Every year Germany alumni from developing and emerging countries are given the opportunity to participate in three to four special projects on the following selected topics: water, education/ICT, renewable energies, nutrition, biodiversity and medicine. The projects each comprise two parts: (1) a professional training seminar usually hosted by two German universities and thematically oriented to the central theme of a selected trade fair or congress and (2) the attendance of the related trade fair, conference or congress. These visits are organised and separately financed by the DAAD. Participants are introduced to newly developed products and technologies and have the opportunity to talk to the exhibitors, company representatives and other experts. This dialogue enables both sides to forge important contacts and initiate collaborations.

### **Who can apply?**

German universities as well as spin-offs/subsidiaries of German universities  
→ [www.daad.de/alumni-special-projects](http://www.daad.de/alumni-special-projects)

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[www.daad.de](http://www.daad.de)

[www.alumniportal-deutschland.org](http://www.alumniportal-deutschland.org)



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