

Call for Applications:

Researcher/Senior Researcher – Research Fellow/Senior Research Fellow

Africa Multiple Cluster of Excellence (EXC 2052)

Research Section: Translating

Position Overview

The Africa Multiple Cluster of Excellence (<https://www.africamultiple.uni-bayreuth.de>) is a major collaborative and transcontinental research institution in the field of African Studies. It is comprised of five Africa Multiple Research Centres (AMRCs), based at the University of Bayreuth, Germany; Moi University, Eldoret, Kenya; Rhodes University, Makhanda, South Africa; Joseph Ki-Zerbo University, Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso; University of Lagos, Nigeria. The AMRCs conduct their work via six Research Sections with members from all locations. To support the Research Sections in the organization of their tasks, the Africa Multiple Cluster seeks to hire Researchers/Senior Researchers – Research Fellows/Senior Research Fellows who coordinate the work of the Research Sections while conducting their own research under the purview of the Research Sections.

Under the current call, we seek to recruit a Researcher/Senior Researcher – Research Fellow/Senior Research Fellow to be affiliated with the Research Section **Translating** within the Africa Multiple Cluster. The successful candidate will pursue an independent research project aligned with the thematic focus of Translating while also serving as **Research Section Coordinator**, supporting the intellectual, organisational, and administrative functioning of the Research Section.

The interdisciplinary Research Section Translating not only investigates translating across languages but also in a broader sense across concepts in a variety of fields from language in education, development projects, religion and verbal arts. The Cluster agenda conceives Africa as part of an entangled, multiple world that is continuously made and unmade through relational processes, which we analyse as processes of translating researching concrete sites, actors and practices. Jointly, the RS critically reflects on the universal: How are seemingly universal concepts like e.g. development or religion made and unmade? Translation processes can impose worlds through classification and subjugation, but can also contest them through relational practices of negotiation, approximation, and creative reimagining. For more information, see https://www.africamultiple.uni-bayreuth.de/en/1_2-Research/Research-Sections/Translating/index.html

The Research Section Coordinator will report to the **Research Section Representative** and work closely with the Steering Committee of the Research Section as well as the Cluster administration.

Key Responsibilities

1. Research

- Develop and conduct a research project aligned with the interests of the RS Translating as described above.
- Contribute to collaborative research activities within the Research Section.
- Publish in peer-reviewed journals and contribute to joint publications.
- Participate in conferences, workshops, and Africa Multiple events.
- Engage in science communication and the dissemination of results to wider publics.

2. Research Coordination

- Work with the Research Section representative and the Steering Committee to implement the research programme of the Research Section.
- Convene and coordinate regular Research Section meetings in collaboration with the Research Section Representative.
- Coordinate workshops, seminars, and collaborative research activities at the level of the Research Section.

3. Administration

- Circulate meeting agendas, document discussions, and monitor follow-up actions.
 - Assist the Steering Committee in the distribution of funds allocated to the Research Section (e.g. events, conference travel, publication support), including administrative processes connected to the accounting for funds.
-

Qualifications

- PhD in Translation Studies, African Studies, History, the Study of Religion, Literature, Arts, Philosophy, Music, Linguistics, Legal Studies, Anthropology or related fields.
- Demonstrated expertise in areas related to the research of the RS.
- Strong research and publication record appropriate to career stage.
- Experience in interdisciplinary and collaborative research environments.
- Excellent organisational and coordination skills.
- Fluency in English (additional languages used within the Cluster would be an asset).

Profile

The successful candidate will demonstrate intellectual independence, collaborative capacity, administrative competence, and a commitment to ethical and reflexive research practices. The position requires both scholarly excellence and the ability to support the collective functioning of a transcontinental research environment.

Employment

The Researcher/Senior Researcher – Research Fellow/Senior Research Fellow will be employed at one of the Africa Multiple Research Centres on the African continent. For Translating, the choice will be between Moi University (Eldoret, Kenya), Rhodes University (Makhanda, South Africa), Joseph Ki-Zerbo University (Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso) and the University of Lagos (Nigeria). The precise job designation and remuneration will be based on the respective institutional practice. At Moi University, annual payment is in the range of 2.170.000 KSH; at Rhodes University around 668.000 ZAR (researcher) or 826.000 ZAR (senior researcher); at the University of Lagos in the range of 23.000.000 NGN; at Joseph Ki-Zerbo University around 7.000.000 CFA.

The contract duration will be 24 months, with a probationary term of six months and the possibility of extension until the end of the Cluster's funding period on December 31, 2032. As the Africa Multiple Cluster encourages exchange and mobility between its locations, it is intended to enable the

Research Section Coordinator to spend up to three months at another Africa Multiple Research Centre.

How to apply

To apply for this position, please submit the following documents:

- Cover letter (including indication of the preferred location among the Africa Multiple Research Centres listed)
- Full CV
- Short description (max. 3 pages) of a potential research project to be pursued within the Translating Research Section
- Names and contact information of two references

The application deadline is June 30, 2026. The intended start date is September 1, 2026 or the earliest possible date thereafter. Please submit your dossier by email to the representative of the Research Section Translating, Prof. Dr. Clarissa Vierke, clarissa.vierke@uni-bayreuth.de.

In case of questions, please contact clarissa.vierke@uni-bayreuth.de.