



## ***Africa Multiple* Cluster of Excellence and Bayreuth Academy of Advanced African Studies**

### **Call for Proposals: International Postdoctoral Working Groups**

Expanding on the successful format established in previous years, the Bayreuth Academy of Advanced African Studies (BA) offers opportunities for postdoctoral academics based at the University of Bayreuth to convene international and interdisciplinary *Working Groups* (WG). The WGs convene for one or two semesters and are designed to create space for the joint discussion of research results emerging from ongoing or starting projects. The Working Group program is particularly committed to promoting and connecting younger postdoctoral scholars. The next groups are planned for the summer semester 2020 and the winter semester 2020/21.

As part of the *Africa Multiple* Cluster of Excellence, the Bayreuth Academy solicits proposals referring to the Cluster's theoretical framework, in particular to its core concepts of multiplicity, relationality and reflexivity in Africa and its diasporas. We welcome comparative perspectives involving Europe or other parts of the world that engage with questions of global entanglements and concomitant theoretical perspectives. Proposals for WGs that create synergies with one or more of the Cluster's Research Sections are particularly encouraged.

Detailed information about the Cluster's general theme, its theoretical approaches, and the Research Sections can be found under the following link:

<https://www.africamultiple.uni-bayreuth.de/en/Research/>

Proposals should feature interdisciplinary and self-reflexive encounters and preferably build bridges between African Studies and other research areas at the University of Bayreuth.

The WGs will feature the following elements:

- regular meetings with presentations and discussions, extending over one semester (ca. 3 months) and to be attended by the conveners, visiting fellows, members of the Bayreuth Academy within the Cluster, as well as interested Cluster members;
- a visiting fellow program comprising senior as well as younger scholars, usually postdoctoral, from Germany and abroad, who will be invited to Bayreuth by the members of the WG to participate in their activities over a period of one to three months, complemented by invited guests based at the University of Bayreuth;
- accompanying events on the WG theme with a public impact (e.g., a conference, workshop, or outreach activities).

We invite applications for themes, formats and facilitators for WGs from groups (consortia) of postdocs based at the University of Bayreuth in the summer of 2020 and the winter of 2020/21. Proposals should

include plans for preparatory work before and a wrap-up phase after the semester featuring the main activities. Financial resources of up to 15,000 Euros are available for the invitation of visiting fellows and the organization of workshops and public events connected to the WG.

The minimum number of conveners is three postdocs, who should come from different disciplines in African Studies and may include non-Africanists. At least two conveners need to be based at the University of Bayreuth. The activities of the WG should result in some form of publication (edited volume, special issue of a journal, contribution to the University of Bayreuth African Studies Online series)

If you intend to apply, please use the application template below. The required information includes a summary of the proposed theme for the WG, details about the working formats and the planned internal as well as external events and activities. Applications also need to include a list of fellows to be invited and a statement giving the reasons why these fellows are being suggested. Please also submit a CV for each convener.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to consult with members of the *Africa Multiple* Cluster of Excellence during the application process and, if selected, during the implementation phase. We also offer support in the identification of competent mentors from within the University of Bayreuth.

For further information or questions, please contact the Research Coordinator of the *Africa Multiple* Cluster of Excellence Robert Debusmann  
[robert.debusmann@uni-bayreuth.de](mailto:robert.debusmann@uni-bayreuth.de)

Please send your application by email to the Director of the Bayreuth Academy and Vice Dean of Research of the *Africa Multiple* Cluster of Excellence, Professor Dr. Erdmute Alber  
[erdmute.alber@uni-bayreuth.de](mailto:erdmute.alber@uni-bayreuth.de)

The deadline for applications is **January 15, 2020**.