

ANNOUNCEMENT AND CALL FOR APPLICATION

On behalf of the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), the Heidelberg Institute of Global Health (HIGH) at University Hospital Heidelberg is organising the

International Germany Alumni Seminar 2023

“DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION IN GLOBAL HEALTH”

18 - 23 April 2023, Heidelberg, Germany

followed by participation in the

DMEA 2023

Europe´s leading event for Digital Health

25 - 27 April 2023, Berlin, Germany

Background and objectives

Digitalisation as a global trend is not only affecting the way we live, and work together, but also reflects new challenges and potentials within the healthcare sector. The World Health Organization (WHO) describes Digital Health as an umbrella term including e-health, digital technologies and information systems. In its [Global Strategy on Digital Health 2020-2025](#), the need for and potential for digital health initiatives to improve the health and well-being of populations was highlighted. Potentials are seen in innovative digital health solutions to improve access to healthcare services that can contribute to the achievement of Universal Health Coverage (UHC). Moreover, the COVID-19 pandemic has accelerated the potential but also has challenged the implementation of digital health technologies and tools just recently.

The main goal of this International Germany Alumni Seminar which builds on **two consecutive elements** – (a) course in Heidelberg and (b) participation in the world’s leading trade fair DMEA 2023 – is to create a better understanding of opportunities Digital Health can offer in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs).

The **objectives of the course** in Heidelberg are to consider the overall impact of digitalisation on healthcare systems and international development cooperation in the healthcare sector. The course on Digital Health is aimed at the Global Health audience concerned with Digital Health Leadership and International Development Cooperation. Participants will learn about the global status and the evolution of Digital Health and gain a basic level of knowledge to effectively navigate the digital transformation topics in Global Health.

The main **objectives** for participation at DMEA 2023 are to learn about the key trends and opportunities in the area of Digital Health, familiarise with the market and global developments, and establish contacts and potential partnerships.

The seminar and trade fair participation is offered by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) in the framework of the programme **SDG Alumni Projects** (formerly known as Alumni Special Projects) (<https://www.daad.de/en/alumni/funding-programmemes-for-alumni/sdg-alumni-projects/>).

The International Germany Alumni Seminar is organized and hosted by the Heidelberg Institute of Global Health (HIGH) at Heidelberg University Hospital. The costs will be mainly covered by funds from the DAAD provided by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ).

Tentative Programme

Over the course of 6 days, - through input sessions, group work, individual assignments and group discussions, - the **seminar in Heidelberg** will focus on the following topics:

- identify opportunities and challenges of the digital transformation in the healthcare sector globally;
- evaluate and assess digital options;
- identify and prioritise digital projects and structure them and;
- learn how digital projects respond to policy priorities and stakeholder needs.

A visit to a local general medicine practice using digital tools will complement the learning process and offer real-life examples of the usage of digital tools and insights into strategies and approaches to Digital Health. Discussions with the course facilitators and social events provide additional opportunities for learning, knowledge exchange and networking.

Social events: In addition to the content-related sessions, the course programme also includes social and informal events, such as a group dinner and a welcome cocktail. This aims to further promote intercultural exchange and social networking among course participants.

The seminar in Heidelberg (**18 - 23 April 2023**) will be followed by participation in the DMEA 2023 trade fair (<https://www.DMEA.de/en>) in Berlin (**25 - 27 April 2023**).

Full attendance (100%) in the course, active participation in group assignments and timely submission of individual assignments, as well as participation in the trade fair DMEA 2023 are mandatory.

Travel dates

Arrival in Heidelberg	17 April 2023
Seminar in Heidelberg	18 - 23 April 2023
Travel to Berlin	24 April 2023
DMEA 2023 in Berlin	25 - 27 April 2023
Departure from Berlin	28 April 2023

Eligibility criteria for participation

You are eligible to apply if you:

- are a German university Alumna/us from a developing country listed as the [DAC list countries](#)
- carried out research or studied in Germany for at least 3 months and
- are currently living and working in a DAC-listed country.

You should have:

- (1) **a proven background in academic fields relevant to** global public health, community health, quality improvement of health services, health policies and other intersectoral topics shaping the health and well-being of populations.
- (2) **professional experience** in the area of digital health/e-health/telemedicine/digital health technologies/digital projects and **experience/interest in the areas of** research, education, government work, civil society organisations, policy-making, project development, local communities, and related stakeholders.
- (3) **the requirements to act as a potential multiplier** who will present the seminar results and trade fair insights in your home country and thus disseminate the acquired knowledge, as well as develop ideas and projects for regional implementation
- (4) **adequate English language proficiency** which is essential to actively participate in the seminar and discussions

Eligibility for repeated participation in SDG Alumni Projects:

Repeated participation in the DAAD programme SDG Alumni Projects is limited to a maximum of 2 participations within 4 years. The decision on repeated participation is based on the year of participation, not the year of application. (This rule does not apply for attendance in a completely digital SDG Alumni Project).

Special Note

Given the world-wide pandemic and the status of uncertainty of its development, DAAD will decide in due course to replace the seminar in presence in 2023 by an online version. This will imply modifications of the programme which will be announced to participants.

Cost coverage

The organizers cover the following costs:

- International return ticket to and from Frankfurt International Airport (lowest possible economy class airfare)
- Train tickets (2nd class)/ shuttle: Frankfurt International Airport to Heidelberg
- Travel health insurance (max. € 35)
- Visa costs
- Accommodation and partial living expenses during the stay in Heidelberg for the seminar
- Transport for the excursion
- Transport from Heidelberg to Berlin
- Accommodation and partial living expenses during the trade fair stay in Berlin
- Entrance fees for the trade fair DMEA 2023
- Transport from the hotel in Berlin to Frankfurt International Airport departure airport

Please note: Flights will be arranged by the local travel agency in Heidelberg. All other costs, such as transport costs from your home town to your airport of departure/arrival, or travel costs for visa application in your home country have to be covered by yourself.

Please keep in mind that living expenses are only covered partly during your stay in Heidelberg and Berlin.

Extensions of stays before the seminar/after the trade fair are only possible up to 5 working days and upon submission of a comparison of flight ticket prices before you start your travel. You will have to pay any difference between the flight ticket prices for the official arrival/return date and your actual date of travel before/after your extension. You must also cover by yourself any additional travel costs, subsistence costs and other additional costs of your extension.

Extensions beyond 5 days must be of an official nature which you need to justify, e.g. through visits to universities, organizations, institutions, companies etc. and with details about contact persons and a day-to-day programme of activities. These extensions must be approved by DAAD before the start of your travel. The DAAD will decide on a case-by-case basis on your justification, your programme etc.

In the case of an extension, you need to arrange your accommodation by yourself, and, very importantly, ensure that you have valid health insurance for the extension days.

Application procedure

Your application (in English language) should emphasise your motivation and the personal/professional benefit of your participation. You should outline how you intend to use the gained knowledge and what possible stakeholders you may identify for collaboration in your professional career.

All applications should be submitted online (please visit our online application website [here](#)).
(You can save your submitted answers and resume any time later.)

Please apply no later than **05 December 2022!**

The [online application](#) consists of the following sections:

- The completed **application form**;
- A **motivation statement**, outlining your motivation for participation and your particular interest in the topic, a brief description of your present duties/position/responsibilities, what this seminar will bring to your professional and/or personal development, and how you can be a multiplier of the knowledge gained in the seminar upon your return to your home country;
- An uploaded **short CV* with a passport-size photograph** and **relevant documentation of alumni status**;
- An **overview** of seminars, workshops or conferences attended in Germany after finishing your studies in Germany.

***Please note: For the requested file upload please name your ONE PDF file “CV_First name Last name_Country” (e.g. CV_Anna Munz_Germany).**

Please note: Completeness of personal data mentioned in the online application form will affect your eligibility as a participant.

With your application, you agree that your data (name, organisation, email) will be stored by the Heidelberg Institute of Global Health and that you may appear in pictures that may be published in association with the seminar in Heidelberg or your participation in the trade fair DMEA 2023.

With your application, you commit to participate in the whole programme (seminar in Heidelberg, DMEA 2023 trade fair in Berlin and any mandatory social events).

After the review by the local organizing committee in Heidelberg and DAAD, all applicants will be informed about the results of the selection process in the second half of **December 2022**.

If you have further questions, please contact the seminar coordinator:

Ms Anna Munz at anna.munz@uni.heidelberg.de

Heidelberg, November 2022



Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst
German Academic Exchange Service

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