



Bayreuth Academy of Advanced African Studies:

**Call for Proposals for international Working Groups  
on “Future Africa and Beyond: Visions in Time”**

The Bayreuth Academy of Advanced African Studies offers opportunities to postdoctoral researchers and staff of the University of Bayreuth to convene an international and interdisciplinary „Semester Working Group” (WG), to debate and review research results on its general project theme „Future Africa and Beyond – Visions in Time“. These WG will comprise the following elements:

- Regular Working Group sessions, with presentations and discussions, over one Semester each (c. 3 months), to be attended by the convenors, the Guest Fellows, and the members of the Bayreuth Academy;
- A Guest Fellow programme, to invite prominent senior as well as younger researchers, usually postdoc, as well as artists from Germany and abroad to Bayreuth, to take part in the WG during 1 to 3 months. Per Working Group ca. 7 to 8 „Fellow months“ for external participants can be granted, complemented by invited Fellows from within the University of Bayreuth.
- An international Conference or Workshop during the Semester, on the WG Theme;
- Accompanying events (presentations on the WG Theme) with a public impact.

The Working Group addresses ideas and representations of “future” and its temporal referents as well as conceptual and methodological questions related to this, and contributes to current debates on these issues. Africa and its Diasporas are important empirical starting points, but comparative perspectives on Europe and other world regions, global entanglements and theoretical perspectives are also highly welcome. A particular emphasis will be on interdisciplinary and self-reflexive encounters, building bridges between African Studies and other research areas of Bayreuth University and beyond. The Working Group programme is particularly bound to promoting and connecting younger postdoc researchers.

Of particular interest are proposals pursuing the generation of ideas about „future“ in contexts such as migration/mobility; religion/worldviews; or Bildung/Education. Proposals for other empirical or conceptual topics are also welcome.

On the condition of continued funding by the German Federal Ministry of Research and Education (BMBF), the Bayreuth Academy calls for applications proposing themes, formats and convenors for three Semester Working Groups: Summer 2017, Winter 2017/18, and Summer 2018. Applications are expected from groups (consortia) of postdocs from all over Bayreuth University. They will also be active on their project during the preparation and processing phases before and after the WG. On offer are financial resources for guest Fellows, Workshops and public events, as well as logistical and organisational support.

Convenors who are employed at Bayreuth University can be granted relief from their teaching obligation, if they have any. The minimum number of applicants for this call is three persons, who should come from different disciplines in African and other studies at Bayreuth University.

Close cooperation with members of the Bayreuth Academy during the application and implementation processes as well as the nomination of competent mentors from within and outside Bayreuth University is expected.

As a first step, we request for meaningful outlines of a maximum of three pages. They should summarize the thematic idea for the WG as well as a plan on formats and internal and external events and other activities. Also, they should contain a draft call for Fellows to be invited, perhaps also individual proposals for invitation. Furthermore, applicants are requested to submit their CVs.

The Deadline for applications is **November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2016**. For further information, please contact Dr. Doris Löhr, Scientific Coordinator of the Bayreuth Academy. Applications (Proposals) should be addressed in electronic form (one .pdf file) to the Director of the Bayreuth Academy, Prof. Achim von Oppen <Achim.vonOppen@uni-bayreuth.de> and to <doris.loehr@uni-bayreuth.de>.