

Call for Application

On behalf of the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), the Brandenburg University of Technology Cottbus-Senftenberg in Cottbus is organizing the

International DAAD Alumni Seminar

“Intensifying the Diffusion of Solar Photovoltaic Technology in Developing Countries for Improving Energy Access in Rural Areas”

June 12th - 19th 2018

in Cottbus, Germany

followed by a

visit to the world's leading trade fair that exhibits solar energy technology innovations and groundbreaking solutions on solar energy, Intersolar Europe 2018

June 20th - 22nd 2018

in München, Germany

The seminar and trade fair visit is offered by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) in the framework of the programme Alumni Special Projects (www.daad.de/alumni-special-projects). The international DAAD Alumni Seminar is organized and hosted by the Department of Civil Law and Public Law with References to the Law of Europe and the Environment of the Faculty of Business, Law and Social Sciences at BTU Cottbus-Senftenberg (Prof. Dr. Eike Albrecht, <https://www.b-tu.de/fg-umweltrecht/>). The costs will be mainly covered by funds from the DAAD provided by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ).

The seminar targets Germany Alumni from developing countries (DAC country nationals) who studied, carried out research or worked in Germany for at least 3 months and are presently living and working in their home countries. The Alumni should have a background in academic fields relevant to renewable energy and work experience in government agencies involve in renewable energy law, policies and climate change; energy industry and businesses related to power generation, transmission, distribution and storage; manufacturing and trade in energy products; energy consultancy; energy project development; research and development as well as education. The prospective participants should be potential multipliers in a position to spread the acquired knowledge and experience and/or take decisions on implementation.

Background and Objective

Energy is the engine of economic development and its role in the development of developing countries where biomass is the main energy source for millions of people especially in rural areas is crucial. Inadequate access to energy is one of the greatest challenges facing especially rural areas in developing countries. With these countries' share of global GDP estimated to increase; adequate, affordable and reliable energy will be required to power the economies. Solar energy which is one of the cleanest and most abundant renewable energy sources offers a viable alternative given that it provides an opportunity for decentralised energy production. With drawbacks of conventional energy and given the enormous solar energy potential in developing countries, there is a need for promoting its large scale diffusion to power development. It is against this backdrop that the BTU is organizing the Alumni seminar.

The main objective of the seminar is to promote discursive exchange between its participants on strategies for accelerating the diffusion of solar energy technologies for the improvement of energy access in rural areas of developing countries in a cost-efficient and effective way. The seminar will provide Alumni with an insight into PV state-of-the-art technologies, their application to propel socio-economic development, potential contribution to energy sustainability, specific solar energy projects, innovative policies that promote solar energy and address barriers that have played a critical role in impeding rapid deployment and investment in this sector. It will enhance scientific knowledge and motivate Alumni to promote rapid deployment of PV technology in their respective countries. The seminar will foster exchange of experiences, establishment of international networks between the participants, scientific discourse on PV technology development and diffusion, and international academic cooperation in this field. It will enhance ideas for joint research, strategic development and knowledge transfer.

Intersolar Europe 2018

The seminar is scheduled in the run-up to the Intersolar Europe 2018 in München (<https://www.intersolar.de/en/home.html>), the world's leading exhibition for the solar industry and its partners. The trade fair focuses on the areas of photovoltaic, solar thermal technologies, solar plants, as well as grid infrastructure and solutions for the integration of renewable energy. Since its foundation 26 years ago, Intersolar Europe has established itself as the most important industry platform for manufacturers, suppliers, wholesalers, service providers and partners in the solar industry. In 2017, Intersolar Europe attracted 1,091 exhibitors and about 40,000 visitors from 51 countries. The seminar and trade fair will contribute in building Alumni capacity in solar energy technologies and also motivate them to promote rapid deployment of the technologies in their respective countries. The seminar and trade fair will also facilitate networking between the participants and with scientists and interested parties from the solar energy industry in Germany.

The main Topics

The main topics of the Seminar are as follows:

- Renewable energy law, policy and planning
- PV system technology and deployment
- Innovative approaches for increasing penetration of solar energy in rural areas of developing countries
- Photovoltaic markets and economics
- Grid-connected photovoltaic power system
- Solar energy projects

Tentative Programme in Cottbus

The seminar in Cottbus will include:

- Lectures by BTU academic staff and external experts,
- Presentations from participating Alumni based on own solar energy projects or own country case studies papers,

- Group work and discussions,
- Visit to PV installation/SMART Capital Region Projects and GridLab GmbH at BTU,
- Excursions to a renowned solar power plant and a solar module manufacturing company,
- German cultural event.

It is necessary to participate in the whole programme: seminar, trade fair visit and social programme.

Eligibility Criteria for Participation

Eligible for participation are Alumni who meet the following requirements:

- **Germany Alumni from developing countries** (DAC country nationals) who have stayed in Germany for at least three months for study or research purposes.
- **A proven background** in academic fields relevant to renewable energy and **work experience** in government agencies involve in renewable energy law, policies and climate change; energy industry and businesses related to power generation, transmission, distribution and storage; manufacturing and trade in energy products; energy consultancy; energy project development; research and development as well as education.
- To act as **potential multipliers**, e.g. people who are in a position to spread the acquired knowledge and experience.
- **Adequate language proficiency** which is essential to actively participate in the seminar and discussions as the seminar will be held **in English**.
- Women are particularly encouraged to apply.

Cost Coverage

The project covers the following costs:

- International return ticket (economy) to Berlin and from München
- Transport from Berlin airport to Cottbus (by train)
- Transport from Cottbus to Intersolar Europe 2018 in München (by train)
- Transport from the Hotel in München to München Airport
- Entrance fees and transport to the visited projects during the excursions
- Entrance fees at the Trade Fair in München
- Accommodation and living expenses during the stay in Cottbus and München
- Travel health insurance and visa costs for the stay in Germany

Please note: All other costs, such as transport costs from participants' home town to their home airport or travel costs for visa application in the home country have to be borne by the participants.

Please bear in mind that living expenses are only covered partly during your stay in Cottbus as well as in München.

Application Requirements and Procedure:

If you are interested, please send your application latest by **29th of March 2018** via email to: Terence.Egute@b-tu.de.

The application (in English language) must include the following documents in **one single pdf file**:

- A **letter of application**, stating your motivation for participation and your special interest in the topic, special interest concerning Intersolar Europe 2018; With which business partners, organizations, institutions etc. would you like to get in contact with?
- A **short CV with a recent passport size photograph**: The application form is available at <https://www.b-tu.de/fg-umweltrecht/projekte/daad/2018>

- An **abstract** on a topic relevant to the seminar main theme which depicts the participant's involvement in the field of renewable energy especially solar energy with reference to his/her home country (the main topics are listed above; abstracts must not exceed one page; please use font type "Arial", font size 11, 1.5 line spacing),
- A **short description of your present duties/ position and your personal professional goals**, indicating your envisaged field of activities and duty level.
- An **overview** on seminars, workshops or conferences visited in Germany after finishing your studies in Germany.

The PDF document has to be named 'Last name_First name_country' (e.g. Egute_Terence_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, organization, email) is given to selected company representatives and that you might appear on pictures which will be published on the DAAD website after the event.

With your application you commit yourself to participate in the whole programme (expert seminar, trade fair visit and social programme).

The programme of the visit of the trade fair Intersolar Europe 2018 in München is prepared by the DAAD.

All applicants will be informed of the results of the selection process before the end of April 2018.

Travel dates:

The date of **arrival in Germany** will be **June 12th, 2018** (arrival at Berlin Tegel Airport or Berlin Schönefeld Airport).

The date of **departure from Germany** will be **June 23rd 2018** (departure from München).

For any further questions, please contact the organizational team:

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Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst
 German Academic Exchange Service

