**ANNOUNCEMENT AND CALL FOR APPLICATION**

On behalf of the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD),
 the Westsächsische Hochschule Zwickau – University of Applied Sciences (WHZ)
is organizing the

**International Germany Alumni Training Seminar 2024**

**Insight and hands-on experience of health technologies in the health economy
3 – 10November 2024 in Zwickau, Germany**

followed by the participation in the

**MEDICA trade fair 2024 –**

 **the international trade fair for the medical sector**

**11 - 14 November 2024 in Düsseldorf, Germany**

## Training seminar aims

WHZ is a globally-oriented university dedicated to fostering intercultural and scientific exchange. The significance of digital health devices and applications has been on the rise, driven not only by the impacts of the Corona pandemic but notably within the realm of international knowledge transfer.

The primary objective of this SDG Alumni Project in connection with MEDICA is to enhance competence in digital medicine, healthcare, and nursing sciences, charting new paths in these fields. Additionally, the initiative introduces tasks and opportunities related to civil protection and urgent environmental issues.

The training seminar aims to present and discuss current trends and the latest findings from health and nursing sciences, employing engaging knowledge transfer techniques such as game-based learning elements. Moreover, the project (training seminar and trade fair participation) plays a pivotal role in fostering networking among alumni and various institutions, including colleges, universities, research institutions, and companies.

Moving on to a different context, MEDICA in Düsseldorf stands out as one of the world's largest medical B2B trade fairs, featuring over 5,300 exhibitors from nearly 70 countries and attracting 83,000 visitors. This event showcases an extensive array of innovative products and services across medical imaging, laboratory technology, diagnostics, health IT, mobile health, as well as physiotherapy/orthopedic technology and medical consumables.

The comprehensive program at MEDICA includes top-notch forums, conferences, and special shows, providing a platform for engaging presentations and discussions with experts and politicians. Notably, it incorporates pitches of new products and award ceremonies, offering a dynamic environment for industry advancements and recognition.

The training seminar and trade fair participation are offered by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) in the framework of the programme **SDG Alumni Projects: Knowledge and Practice for Development for Germany Alumni from the Global South** ([www.daad.de/sdg-alumni-projects](http://www.daad.de/sdg-alumni-projects)).

The International Germany Alumni Training Seminar is organized and hosted by the Westsächsische Hochschule Zwickau – University of Applied Sciences (WHZ). The costs will be mainly covered by funds from the DAAD provided by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ).

The training seminar is scheduled in the run-up to the trade fair MEDICA 2024 ([**www.medica-tradefair.com**](https://www.medica-tradefair.com/)).

## Tentative Programme OF THE TRAINING SEMINAR

The training seminar programme in Zwickau will include:

* sessions and workshops on digital health, digitalization in the health industry, Digital Healthcare Innovations and technology Transfer in International Settings, Interdisciplinary Approaches to Addressing Global Health Disparities: Opportunities and Collaborative Strategies and Integrating Digital Healthcare Innovations into Global Health Education with in-depth discussions and exchange of ideas among participants,
* presentations by participating alumni,
* group work and professional networking opportunities with academics and the applied sector,
* excursions and cultural events.

The **tentative programme (see this** [**link**](https://www.fh-zwickau.de/studium/alumni/aktuelle-alumni-veranstaltungen/international-germany-alumni-seminar-2024-medica/programme/)**)** is published on **our homepage (see this** [**link**](https://www.fh-zwickau.de/studium/alumni/aktuelle-alumni-veranstaltungen/international-germany-alumni-training-seminar-2024-medica/)**)**. The final programme in Zwickau will be published as soon as all participants have been selected together with the DAAD and the topics have been adapted to the requirements of your professional disciplines. We will inform you in due time.

**Travel dates**:

3 November 2024 Arrival in Zwickau

4 – 9 November 2024 **Training Seminar in Zwickau**

10 November 2024 Travel from Zwickau to Düsseldorf

11– 14 November 2024 **Participation at MEDICA 2024 Düsseldorf**

15 November 2024 Departure from Düsseldorf

**It is essential** that you participate in from the first day of the training seminar in Zwickau to the last day of the MEDICA trade fair 2024 in Düsseldorf.

## Eligibility criteria for participation / PARTICPNAT’S PROFILE

This project (training seminar and trade fair participation) targets Alumni of German universities / research Institutions

* who are citizens of countries listed on the OECD DAC list (use this [**link**](http://www.oecd.org/dac/financing-sustainable-development/development-finance-standards/daclist.htm)),
* who are currently living and working in their home countries / in the Global South, and
* who carried out research or studied in Germany **for at least 3 months**

**OR**

* which were funded within the framework of

-the DAAD In-Country/In-Region Scholarship Programme,

-the Centres of African Excellence or

-the SDG Graduate Schools

You should have

1. a **proven background in academic fields relevant to the topics** of medical professionals (doctors, laboratory technicians, therapists, etc.), employees from the fields of orthopedics, health informatics and economics as well as multipliers from the aforementioned fields in university teaching
2. **professional experience and personal interest in one of the following areas**: research, education, NGOs, government agencies, policy making, project development, local communities, and related stakeholders,
3. the **requirements to act as a potential change agent (multiplier)** who will present the training seminar results in your home country and thus disseminate the acquired knowledge as well as develop ideas and projects for regional implementation,
4. **adequate language proficiency** which is essential to actively participate in the workshops and discussions as the seminar will be held **in English**.

**Eligibility for repeated attendances at SDG Alumni Projects:**

Participations in SDG Alumni Projects are limited to a maximum of 2 participations within 4 years. The year of participation, not the year of application, is decisive for the calculation. (This rule does not apply for attendance in a completely digital SDG Alumni Projects (formerly Alumni Special Projects).

## Cost coverage

The organizers cover the following costs:

1. International return ticket from and to airport in Germany (lowest possible economy class airfare)
2. Train tickets (2nd class): Airport to Zwickau– preferably Rail & Fly
3. Travel health insurance and visa costs (max. 16 Eur/person, in case the budget does not allow for a higher reimbursement)
4. Accommodation and meals during the stay in Zwickau for the training seminar
5. Transport on excursions
6. Transport from Zwickau to Düsseldorf
7. Accommodation and partial living expenses during the trade fair participation in Düsseldorf (will be organized and paid by the DAAD)
8. Entrance fees at the trade fair in Düsseldorf
9. Transport from the hotel in Düsseldorf to the departure airport

**Please note:**

The items (1), (2) and (9) are funded up to a maximum amount of 900 Euro/person.

**We will pre-reserve a hotel room** for you for the period of the training seminar in Zwickau. Therefore item (4) is funded with a lump sum of 96 Euro/day/person for accommodation and meals. Catering costs for evening events are deducted pro rata.

The DAAD will pre-reserve a hotel room for you for the period of your stay during the MEDICA trade fair participation in Düsseldorf.

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

You must cover by yourself any other costs, such as transport costs between your place of residence and “your” airport, and travel costs for visa application in your country of residence.

**Extensions of stays** before the training seminar/after the SDG Alumni Project MEDICA 2024 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 (see above) 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 you start your travel. Decisions by DAAD are made on an individual nature based upon your justification, your programme etc.

For any extension, you need to organize your accommodation by yourself, and, very important, you have to make sure to have a valid health insurance for the extension days as well as a valid visa for the additional days.

## Application procedure

Your application (in English language) should emphasize your motivation and professional benefit for your participation. You should illustrate how you are planning to imply the gained knowledge and what possible stakeholders for collaboration you may identify for your professional career.

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

* a filled out **application form**: The form is available on [**application form**](https://www.fh-zwickau.de/fileadmin/alumni/portal/veranstaltungen/Alumni-Woche/2024/Application_Form_WHZ_MEDICA_2024.docx) or use our [**website**](https://www.fh-zwickau.de/studium/alumni/aktuelle-alumni-veranstaltungen/international-germany-alumni-seminar-2024-medica/application-deadline-3-april-2024/) for your application.
* a **short CV** with photograph and relevant documentation of alumni status,
* an abstract on “Challenges and solutions for implementing medical innovations in the 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 should be named ‘**Last name\_First name\_country’**

(e.g. Mustermann\_Mara\_Germany).

Please send your application, **as one single pdf file, latest by 3 April 2024** (23.59 CET) via email to: **alumniwoche.org@fh-zwickau.de****.**

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

After the review by the local organizing committee and DAAD, the invited participants will be notified end of April 2024.

**For further questions**, please contact

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Zwickau, 7 March 2024

