

**Bayreuth Academy of Advanced African Studies  
and “Africa Multiple” Cluster of Excellence:**

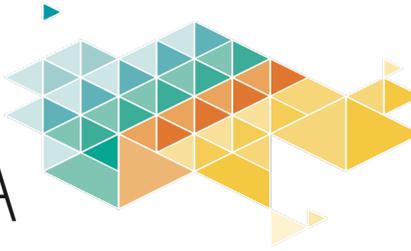
**Call for Proposals:  
International Postdoctoral Working Groups  
on “Multiple Futures: Africa and Beyond”**

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 an international and interdisciplinary “Working Group” (WG). The WGs convene for one semester 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 2019 and the winter semester 2019/20.

As the BA will become part of the new “Africa Multiple” Cluster of Excellence, the overarching theme of the next WGs will bring the BA’s previous research agenda, titled “Future Africa and Beyond – Visions in Time”, into dialogue with the cluster’s theoretical framework captured in the title “Africa Multiple”. We therefore solicit proposals that connect the concepts of multiplicity and relationality in Africa with future and future making. Moreover, we particularly invite proposals for WGs that create synergies with one of the cluster’s research sections. Applicants may write to the contact persons listed below to receive detailed information about the cluster’s general theme, its theoretical approach, and the research sections. A short overview is also available under the following link:

<https://www.uni-bayreuth.de/en/research/excellence-strategy/africa-multiple/index>

The WGs are expected to address ideas and representations of future and future-making and relate them to the conceptual agenda of the “Africa Multiple” cluster. In particular, they are encouraged to engage with the concept of temporalities, which will serve as one of the heuristic angles of the cluster. The focus should be on Africa and its diasporas, but we also welcome comparative perspectives involving Europe or other parts of the world that engage with questions of global entanglements and concomitant theoretical perspectives. 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 2019 and the winter of 2019/20. Proposals should include plans for preparatory work before and a wrap-up phase after the semester featuring the main activities. We offer financial resources for the invitation of visiting fellows and the organization of workshops and public events connected to the WG. Conveners employed at the University of Bayreuth can be granted partial relief from their teaching obligations, if applicable (without financial compensation). 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)

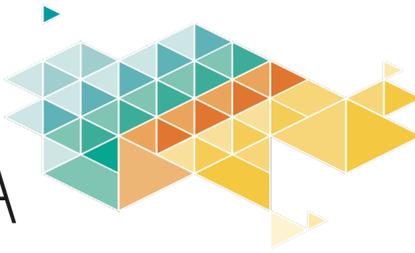
If you intend to apply, please use the application form below. The required information includes a summary of the proposed theme for the WG, details about the working formats and the planned internal as well as external events and activities. Applications also need to include a draft call for fellows to be invited, or, in cases where fellows have already been identified, 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 BA and the “Africa Multiple” cluster during the application process and, if selected, during the implementation phase. We also offer support in the identification of competent mentors from within and outside the University of Bayreuth.

For further information or questions, please contact Dr. Katharina Fink ([katharina.fink@uni-bayreuth.de](mailto:katharina.fink@uni-bayreuth.de)) or Dr. Doris Löhr ([doris.loehr@uni-bayreuth.de](mailto:doris.loehr@uni-bayreuth.de)).

Please send your application by email to the Director of the Bayreuth Academy, Prof. Dr. Achim von Oppen ([achim.vonoppen@uni-bayreuth.de](mailto:achim.vonoppen@uni-bayreuth.de)), and the Vice Dean of Research of the “Africa Multiple” cluster, Prof. Dr. Erdmute Alber ([erdmute.alber@uni-bayreuth.de](mailto:erdmute.alber@uni-bayreuth.de)).

The deadline for applications is January 30, 2019.



## Application Sheet Post-Doc Working Group

Title of the proposed Working Group (WG):

Abstract of the WG (max 250 words):

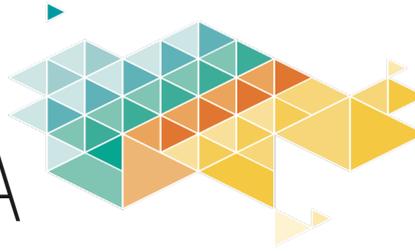
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Keywords of the WG:

Theme, Objectives and Relevance (max. 1.000 words):

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Proposed Dates of the WG (summer term 2019: April-July 2019, winter term 2019: Oct-Feb 2019/20):

Please specify the events you intend to organize (Please keep in mind a realistic work load)  
For instance: Lectures/Seminars; Reading sessions; conferences / workshops; Outreach/  
Public Engagement Activities:

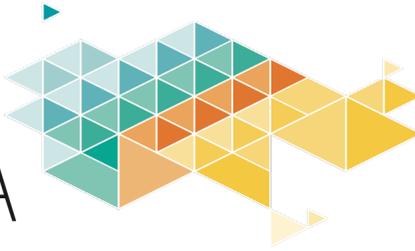
Which format of publication is planned (Publications should be out 1 year after WG)

Applicants (the hosting group should be comprised of 3 people, of which at least 2 should be based at the University of Bayreuth)

Members of University of Bayreuth, address:

Further conveners of the WG, addresses:

Contact Person (should be based at the University of Bayreuth):



Do you have special needs to facilitate the Working Group, eg sign language translator?

Thank you very much for your application! We will be in touch soon. The selection committee will convene in early February 2019 and communicate the final decision shortly thereafter.

If you have any further questions, do not hesitate to contact us:

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