



Programme Information

German Research Chair “Mathematics and its Applications” at the African Institute for Mathematical Sciences (AIMS) in South Africa

The Alexander von Humboldt Foundation is announcing a research chair, under the programme financed by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) entitled “German Research Chairs”, at the African Institute for Mathematical Sciences (AIMS) in Muizenberg, South Africa. [AIMS South Africa](#) is part of the [AIMS-Next Einstein Initiative](#) (AIMS-NEI), which seeks to establish a coordinated network of supra-regional centres of excellence in Africa to help meet the need for scientists trained in mathematics. Besides South Africa, AIMS centres already exist in Senegal, Ghana, Cameroon and Rwanda; others are to follow.

The internationally advertised research chair is designed to help strengthen university education in mathematics and research in Africa, promote networking between AIMS South Africa and German universities, and support networking amongst the various AIMS centres in Africa.

The call addresses mathematicians worldwide who hold a PhD, demonstrably conduct application-related research and have at least several years of experience in research and teaching as well as training students and (ideally) doctoral candidates.

The successful candidate will be expected to live and work in South Africa. A joint appointment at a university in South Africa is planned. The Humboldt Foundation will evaluate the chair holder after three years of funding. A long-term establishment of the research chair at AIMS South Africa independent of BMBF funding is intended.

Sponsorship

The sponsorship will be made available for **six years** and will total up to **835,000 EUR**. It will comprise the following items:

- salary attached to the research chair depending on the career stage, in case of a Full Professor of up to 85,000 EUR p.a. (employer's gross amount)
- relocation costs of the chair holder (up to 10,000 EUR once only)
- research stays undertaken by the chair holder to conduct research projects of her/his own choice at institutions of collaborative partners in Germany (up to 10,000 EUR p.a.)
- participation in national and international conferences (up to 7,500 EUR p.a.)

- realisation of workshops and conferences at AIMS South Africa (15,000 EUR p.a.)
- funding for specialist literature, equipment and expendable materials at AIMS South Africa (up to 20,000 EUR p.a.)

For detailed information on the use of the sponsorship amount, please refer to the "[Regulations on the Use of Funds](#)". Payments of the funding amount are dependent on the availability of budgetary means.

Furthermore, the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) will promote cooperation with German universities and networking amongst the AIMS centres by funding scholarships (doctoral students, mobility) once the chair holder is established.

The chair holder at AIMS South Africa will become eligible for the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation's **alumni sponsorship**.

Application procedure

The call for the German Research Chair in "Mathematics and its applications" at AIMS South Africa is advertised internationally. Applications may be submitted by academics who

- have completed a doctorate and have an outstanding internationally recognised research record
- conduct research in the field of mathematics and its applications and welcome the challenge of cooperating with other fields inside and outside academia
- conduct application-relevant research and are thereby able to contribute to the development of Africa
- have at least three years of teaching experience, including experience in supervising university students
- are active in international scientific networks and collaborations
- have experience in scientific capacity building (research and teaching)
- already have or will establish a scientific cooperation with a German institution of higher education

The Alexander von Humboldt Foundation explicitly welcomes applications from qualified **female academics**.

Cooperation with German partners

Ideally, the submitted application should already include plans regarding collaboration with an academic partner based in Germany. Applicants are expected to explain convincingly how their future cooperation with researchers at one or more universities/research institutions in Germany can be developed and how junior researchers will be integrated.

An application can be submitted even if contact with a partner at a German university/research institution has not yet been established by the application deadline.

Application and selection procedure

The deadline for submitting applications is

15 May 2023.

Applications received late can only be considered subject to prior agreement.

Applications have to be submitted online. The expert reviews and the statement of the collaborative partner in Germany must be uploaded by their authors directly to the online

application form. Visit the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation's [website](#) for further information on the online application process, and all necessary documents as well as access to the online application system. Please also do not miss to consider the FAQ which provide further guidance on how to complete your application.

In case of further questions please contact: GermanResearchChairs@avh.de.

An independent selection committee, which also includes representatives of AIMS South Africa and AIMS-NEI, will decide on appointment to the chair. Selection is based on independent peer review. In a pre-selection process, suitable candidates will be identified and invited to South Africa to present their work in autumn 2023. The Alexander von Humboldt Foundation will notify applicants of the outcome shortly after the selection committee's decision. The successful candidate will be requested to take up the position as soon as possible.

The Humboldt Foundation assumes that candidates will abide the [Rules of Good Scientific Practice](#) and the legally binding principles of scientific ethics during the application and sponsorship periods. For further information on this, please refer to the [Regulations on the use of funds](#).

as of: December 2022