



AIMS

African Institute for
Mathematical Sciences
GHANA



UNESCO Category II Centre of Excellence

An Introduction to AIMS Ghana



About AIMS Ghana

[AIMS Ghana](#) is part of the African Institute for Mathematical Sciences Next Einstein Initiative (AIMS-NEI) network of Centres of Excellence for postgraduate training, research and public engagement in mathematical sciences. Established in 2012, AIMS Ghana is also a UNESCO Category II Centre of Excellence.

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About AIMS Ghana



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Located at Summerhill Estates, East Legon Hills in Accra, the centre hosts an international mix of students, tutors, researchers, staff from all over the world; and attract a diverse group of both in-country and international stakeholders from academia, industry and government. The spectacular and vibrant campus offers inspirational spaces for idea origination, knowledge exchange and creative research.

Research at AIMS Ghana

The research at AIMS Ghana strives to promote excellent ground-breaking research within the mathematical sciences that would eventually influence policy and technology for the benefit of society.

The research established in 2014 with two researchers - Professor Wilfred Ndifon and Dr. Gaston K. Mazandu as Joint IDRC Research Chairs in Quantitative Biology and Epidemiology. It is currently led by Professor Olivier Menoukeu Pamen, German Research Chair in Mathematics and its Applications at AIMS Ghana, since 2016 (https://humboldt-foundation.pageflow.io/aims_ghana_pamen_en#234822)

The research centre operates with the mission of pursuing cutting edge cross-cutting research in both foundational and applied

Mathematics within a unique international collaborative model.



Research at AIMS Ghana focuses on stochastic analysis and its applications, as well as other areas such as optimization, machine learning, algebra and mathematical physics. The research centre has been strengthening collaborations between AIMS Ghana and other AIMS Centres, as well as institutions in Africa, Germany, and at the global level.

The research team comprises of the research chair, other academic faculty, postdoctoral fellows and PhD students. Researchers at AIMS Ghana benefit from advanced infrastructure comprising computers, high-speed internet, server and printing/copying machines, with needed technical support from IT staff.



The campus also has sufficient offices and space for hosting scientific events and meetings. All employees and students have lunch together in the cafeteria. Mobility for official purposes is facilitated by the logistics staff.



Prospective Researchers

[The AIMS Structured Master's Programme](#) and the [AIMS Master's in Machine Intelligence \(AMMI\)](#) offers a direct pool of prospective researchers with diverse skill sets which research group leaders, including research chairs could recruit. This is in addition to students and alumni from across the AIMS network.

This unique student and alumni body immediately eliminates the constraint of sourcing suitable research students and postdoctoral fellows.



Partner Universities and Institutions

AIMS Ghana has a number of academic partners, both locally and internationally. The academic partners at the local level are [University of Ghana](#), [University of Cape Coast](#) and [Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology](#).

Internationally, AIMS Ghana collaborates with the following universities and institutions for research, teaching and organisation of various [scientific events](#):

- [Karlstad University](#);
- [Nanyang Technological University](#);
- [Perimeter Institute for Theoretical Physics](#);
- [Durham University](#);
- [Heriot-Watt University](#).

Funding partners of AIMS Ghana are Government of Ghana, the Mastercard Foundation, the Canadian government, German Federal Ministry of Education and Research, DAAD, Alexander Von Humboldt Foundation and Google.

Benefits as an AIMS Affiliate:

Insurance & Relocation Expenses

AIMS expatriate employees benefit from insurance and relocation expenses. Insurance for employees and their dependents covers medical expenses at the local level. Accra hosts



a number of hospitals and clinics of international standards which provide medical services to AIMS staff upon visitation. Below are links to some health facilities in Accra:

<http://www.acaciamedcentre.com/>
<http://www.delinternationalhospital.com/>
<https://www.nyahomedical.com/>
<http://www.ghanacanadamedicalcentre.com/>
<http://www.thetrusthospital.com/>
<https://www.euracare.com.gh/>
<https://samjspecialisthospital.com/>
<http://bemuahospital.com/med1/>

Within the framework of the Research Chair's budget, AIMS will provide the necessary logistic support to relocate the incumbent, their dependents and material goods to Ghana. Relocation expenses will also include visa fee, flight ticket (s) and ground transportation.

There are descent residential facilities at East Legon Hills, in the AIMS neighbourhood, which are suitable for families. Expatriate staff will be supported by logistic staff at AIMS Ghana to locate such facilities for rent and occupancy.



About Ghana

Ghana is a country along the Gulf of Guinea and the Atlantic Ocean, in West Africa with a population of approximately 30 million. The capital city is Accra, where AIMS is located. There are a variety of ethnic, linguistic and religious groups in Ghana. Apart from Christians, who are dominant, there are Muslims and practised traditional faiths.

The climate of Ghana is tropical and there are two main seasons: the raining and the dry seasons. South Ghana, where AIMS is located,

experiences its rainy season from March to mid-November. The tropical climate of Ghana is relatively mild for its latitude.

Known as the gateway to Africa, Ghana is one of the most popular tourist destinations in Western Africa, with English as its official language. With its friendly people, unique experiences and culture, Ghana is one of the safest destinations on the continent.

It encompasses plains, waterfalls, low hills, rivers, lake Volta, the world's largest artificial lake, Dodi Island and Bobowasi Island on the south. More information can be found at <https://visitghana.com>.

Currency

The Ghanaian cedi (GHS) is the unit of currency in Ghana. A wide range of international currencies and bank cards are also accepted and can be converted to the local currency at the banks or forex bureau.

Safety and Moving Around

Although Ghana is one of the safest destinations on the continent, caution is always supreme. The public transportation facility is very developed with a variety of ride company services such as Uber, Yango, Bolt, among others. There are also motor bikes, buses and private taxis. Most of the drivers speak basic English and the local languages.

Speed limits are 40km within the city and 60km out of the city. An international driving permit is required to drive. However, an entry permit, insurance document and driving licence is needed if you are coming from abroad.





Immigration

Visa is required for entry into Ghana. However, some countries in West Africa (ECOWAS member states) and some other countries in Africa are exempted from obtaining a visa before entering Ghana. Nationals from African Union member states who are not ECOWAS nationals may obtain a visa on arrival after payment of required fees.

For requirements for visa application, see https://www.gis.gov.gh/visa_permits.html.

Schools

There are a variety of international and local schools to choose from in Accra. Ghana's international educational system offers a variety of curriculums related to a country's education system - British, American, German, French, Islamic, Dutch and/or to the International Baccalaureate (IB) system. See www.ibo.org. Average tuition ranges from USD 12,000 to 15,000 per annum.

The medium of instruction for most schools Accra is English. The academic year for most schools is from September to July, with intermittent holidays.



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Africa Institute for Mathematical Sciences, Ghana
Summerhill Estates | East Legon Hills | Santoe | Accra
P.O. Box LG DTD 20046, Legon, Accra | GPS: GK- 0647-1372
Email: info@aims.edu.gh