



Programme Information

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

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 in Kigali, Rwanda](#) is part of the [AIMS-Next Einstein Initiative](#) (AIMS-NEI). This initiative seeks to establish a coordinated network of 15 supra-regional centres of excellence in Africa during the next ten years to help meet the need for scientists trained in mathematics. The first AIMS centres in South Africa, Senegal, Ghana and Cameroon are models for AIMS Rwanda and other institutes being created in Africa.

The internationally advertised research chair is designed to help strengthen university education in mathematics and research in Africa, promote networking between AIMS Rwanda 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 Rwanda. A joint appointment at a university in Rwanda 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 Rwanda independent of BMBF funding is intended.

Sponsorship

The sponsorship will initially be made available for four years and will total up to 560,000 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 Rwanda (15,000 EUR p.a.)
- funding for specialist literature, equipment and expendable materials at AIMS Rwanda (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](#)".

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 Rwanda will become eligible for the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation's **alumni sponsorship**.

Application procedure

The call for the German Research Chair at AIMS Rwanda is advertised internationally. Applications may be submitted by academics who

- have completed a doctorate and have at least three years of teaching experience, including experience in supervising university students
- have an outstanding, internationally recognised research record
- are active in international scientific networks and collaborations
- have experience in scientific capacity building (research and teaching)
- 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
- 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 2020.

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.

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

An independent selection committee, which also includes representatives of AIMS Rwanda 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 Rwanda to present their work in autumn 2020. 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: November 2019