



Photo: Baslayi Tindano

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TUM.Africa Newsletter

Latest news on TUM.Africa

- ▶ A delegation of the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST), led by Prof. Rexford Assasie Oppong, Dean of the International Programmes Office, visited TUM from March 18 – 22, 2019. During the visit the delegation discussed the further development of the [strategic partnership between KNUST and TUM](#), held several meetings with professors from Architecture and Civil Engineering as well as with administrative stakeholders on academic affairs, internationalisation, teaching & education and high-profile doctoral education.

The visitors also met with Ghanaian students currently finishing their exchange semester at TUM as well as with the project team “Africast” from TUM Junge Akademie. The visit ended successfully with the attendance of the graduation ceremony of the Master in Land Management and Land Tenure.

Recent TUM activities in Africa

- ▶ **Festive inauguration of the Burkina Institute of Technology (bit)**
Under the lead management of the Stern Stewart Institute and with the help of two student teams under the supervision of the TUM Center for Entrepreneurial and Financial Studies (CEFS), a new study course with a major in IT and a minor in Entrepreneurship was developed and accredited in record time in Burkina Faso. Many TUM professors provided input and gave their study material as basis for the course design. The buildings are designed by TUM Professor Architect Francis Kéré.

After a planning phase, started at the beginning of 2018, the first class was able to start in the winter term 2018/2019. First hurdles – such as the provision of a solid English knowledge – were mastered and best practices are continuously collected to enable quick adjustments.



Inauguration ceremony at bit Photo: Susanne Pertl

The festive inauguration with guests from Germany as well as Burkina officials took place in December 2018. We are looking forward to further develop this exciting project. The next step will be the completion of the innovation tower. Further information can be found on the [websites of CEFS](#) and [bit](#).

- ▶ Prof. Brigitte Helmreich, Chair of Urban Water Systems Engineering, has become a member of the **African Center of Excellence in Water and Environment Research (ACEWATER)** at the Redeemer's University, Ede, Nigeria. The main focus of this Centre is capacity development for water quality management. The International Scientific & Industry Advisory Board (IS&IAB) made up of nine members is expected to provide guidance and input on the education and research activities of the Center.

Furthermore, it is expected to meet biannually (virtually), and provide regular feedback to Center management on performance, proposed workplans and relevance to development impact. The Board is expected to also advise on academic programs and future research directions in ACEWATER. The tenure of the Board is for five years. It starts in February 2019.

- ▶ From March 12 to 14, 2019, the second South-East-African & European Conference on Refugees and Forced Migrants successfully took place in Kilifi, Kenya. Prof. Elisabeth Wacker, Chair of Sociology of Diversity, and Andrea Göttler, Diversity Officer at the Faculty of Sport and Health Sciences, participated in the conference on behalf of TUM. Following up on the discussions and results of the first conference *Social Rights – Care – Mutual Benefits?*, the focus topic of this event was *Health in Diversity, Diversity in Health?*.



Prof. Elisabeth Wacker and Andrea Göttler together with Prof. Ulrich Becker, Director of the Max Planck Institute for Social Law and Social Policy, Munich and their Kenyan colleagues in Kilifi. Photo: Pwani University

Several African as well as European scientists presented their work and thoughts on historical, legal, political and economic perspectives of health among refugees and forced migrants. Further thematic aspects included quality of life, diversity and the specific situation of people in refugee camps.

As well as the previous conference held at Pwani University (PU), this event was co-organized by the TUM Chair of Sociology of Diversity and the Max Planck Institute for Social Law and Social Policy in Munich.

[Read the complete program](#)

At the end of this year, an edited volume of the conference proceedings will be published by Springer, following the [first anthology from 2018](#).

In the context of her stay in Kilifi, Prof. Wacker also participated in the signature ceremony of the new Memorandum of Understanding between PU and TUM.

The TUM team also took the opportunity to further several joint undertakings, among them an application for a summer school on the topic of One Health to be held later in 2019.

In addition, discussions continued on a joint Master program on Global Health and One Health, as well as other potential research and teaching activities.

► **News from the Center of Global Health and the Institute for Medical Microbiology, Immunology, and Hygiene at TUM**

A joint seminar was held at the Albert-Schweizer-Hospital and the CERMEL (Centre de Recherches Médicales de Lambaréné) in Lambaréné in Gabon from January 7 to 9, 2019 to kick-off the consortial project HELMVIT.

The full title of the project is *Impact of maternal helminth infection on Vitamin D regulation and on the immune system of the infant*. It is coordinated by Prof. Clarissa Prazeres da Costa, Co-Director of the Center for Global Health, Institute for Medical Microbiology, Immunology and Hygiene of TUM. Collaboration partners are Prof. Akim Adegnika (CERMEL) and Dr. Meral Esen (Institute for Tropical Medicine, University of Tübingen).



Prof. Wacker participated in the signature ceremony of the new Memorandum of Understanding between PU and TUM with the whole university management: VC Prof. Rajab and members of the administration. Photo: Pwani University



Closing speech and announcement of future research and teaching activities. Photo: Pwani University



Presentation of Prof. C. Prazeres da Costa Photo: TUM

The consortium is funded for three years by the DFG within the call “German-African Cooperation Projects in Infectiology”. This seminar had three aims:

- The first one was to discuss results of a successful pilot study, which took place in Munich and Lambaréné and was performed by students of the Technical University Munich and which will pave the way for the upcoming study.
- The second aim was to discuss the details of the new DFG study on the influence of maternal helminth infection on Vitamin D regulation and the immune system of the children. Amongst many other staff members, two Gabonese PhD students will be part of this collaborative research project which will cover basic science aspects as well as general women health topics. In this line, a joint German-Gabonese workshop will take place in January 2020 with new partners from other TUM departments as well as representatives from the Ministry of Health in Gabon and other international researchers.
- Thirdly, new avenues in terms of capacity building (joint teaching, student exchange, knowledge transfer) and timely Global Health-related research topics were explored with the overall intention to intensify and sustain this collaboration.

- ▶ **TUM Campus Straubing / TUM School of Management: Master Program “Technology and Management of Renewable Energies” in Tunisia**
TUM and the University Tunis el Manar (UTM) will establish a [Master Program in Tunisia](#) with the main target of providing a specific education related to renewable energies and management on master level for African students with a bachelor degree in energy technology, engineering, natural sciences and environmental sciences.

Upcoming TUM activities in Africa

- ▶ **First Ethiopian – German Networking Days on Medical Technology in Addis Ababa, April 15 to 17, 2019**

The Networking Days are a kick-off event for the establishment of a permanent international cooperation cluster in the field of medical engineering in Ethiopia. The aim is to bring together African and German industrial and scientific partners as well as their employees and students to carry out joint R&D projects, medical technology product development and international education. The event is organized by [TUM – MedTech OneWorld](#), Tegbare-id PTC, and GIZ.

- ▶ The TUM Centre for Building Materials is organizing the workshop **Einfach Bauen** from June 1 to 16, 2019 in Bagamoyo, Tanzania. It is part of a 6 ECTS elective module of the specialization Materials in civil engineering. In the project a school room is being built for the "Forward Step Organization" in Tanzania.



Impressions of the workshop location in Tanzania Photo: Mareike Thiedeitz

The local construction methods are adapted and connected with the state of the art in concrete construction. A permanent building is to be created with the simplest of materials, and using the versatility of concrete.

The construction project takes place on the east coast in Tanzania at a local non-governmental organization (NGO). Further information, including the application procedure, please [send an e-mail to Mareike Thiedeitz](#).

Recent TUM publications on Africa

- ▶ The Chair of Sociology of Diversity has worked on the edited volume ***Refugees and Forced Migrants in Africa and the EU: Comparative and Multidisciplinary Perspectives on Challenges and Solutions*** deals with the topic of flight and migration from a comparative and interdisciplinary perspective. It makes the results of the first South-East African and European Conference on *Refugees and Forced Migrants: Social Rights – Care – Mutual Benefits?*, which took place in Kenya in 2016, available to the interested public.

The book contains articles by African and European authors from various academic disciplines including Political Science, Sociology, Law and Anthropology. It can be accessed via [Springer Link](#). For further information, please contact [Dr. Katharina Crepaz](#).

- ▶ Chigbu, Uchendu Eugene: Masculinity, men and patriarchal issues aside: How do women's actions impede women's access to land? Matters arising from a peri-rural community in Nigeria. *Land Use Policy* **81**, 2019, 39-48
- ▶ Chigbu, Uchendu; Alemayehu, Zebad; Dachaga, Walter: Uncovering land tenure insecurities: tips for tenure responsive land-use planning in Ethiopia. *Development in Practice*, 2019, 1-13
- ▶ Uchendu Eugene Chigbu, Gaynor Paradza and Walter Dachaga: Differentiations in Women's Land Tenure Experiences: Implications for Women's Land Access and Tenure Security in Sub-Saharan Africa. *Land* **8** (2), 2019
- ▶ Uwayezu, Ernest; de Vries, Walter Timo: Expropriation of Real Property in Kigali City: Scoping the Patterns of Spatial Justice. *Land* **8** (2), 2019, 23

Calls for proposals related to Africa

- ▶ [WASCAL II – West African Science Service Centre on Climate Change and Adapted Land Use](#) („Kompetenzzentrum zur wissenschaftlichen Unterstützung gegen den Klimawandel und des anpassungsfähigen Landmanagements im westlichen Afrika“), Bundesanzeiger vom 15.02.2019, max. 3 years, €500,000
- ▶ A new call for proposal for the [August-Wilhelm Scheer Visiting Professor Program](#) is online. Application deadline: April 30th, 2019.
- ▶ Several DAAD calls relating to Africa have been published recently; an overview can be found on the [DAAD website](#), among others:
 - [University-Business-Partnerships](#) between Higher Education Institutions and Business Partners in Germany and in Developing Countries; deadline 18.4.
 - [Fachbezogene Partnerschaften mit Hochschulen in Entwicklungsländern](#), deadline 28.06.
 - [Hochschulkooperation mit dem African Institute for Mathematical Sciences \(AIMS\) Südafrika 2019-2023](#), deadline 3.6.

Please note that some DAAD proposals require the approval of the university management board, usually in the form of a signed Mandate Letter. In this case, please provide information on your intended funding application so that the project can be reviewed by relevant central units and approved by university management as soon as possible and no later than four weeks before the deadline of the call for proposals to TUM International Center. Please send an e-mail to internationalcenter@tum.de.

Contact

If you would like to contribute to this newsletter, please [send an e-mail to Prof. de Vries](#).
Deadline for the next issue: June 15, 2019