



## **ANNOUNCEMENT AND CALL FOR APPLICATION**

On behalf of the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD)  
the WHZ Zwickau University of Applied Sciences is organizing the

### **International Germany Alumni Seminar 2022**

**SDG Alumni Projects: Knowledge and Practice for Development  
for Germany Alumni from emerging and developing countries (BMZ)**

**International Exchange on Distant, Blended and Online Education and Learning**

**15 - 22 November 2022 in Zwickau, Germany**

followed by the participation at the

**Global Conference Online Education Berlin 2022**

**23 - 26 November 2022 in Berlin, Germany**

### **Seminar aims**

Distant Education is done since more than 100 years. It went online using radiotelephony in Australia some 80 years ago. With upcoming of computer technology sending tapes, disks, CD-ROMs etc. a soft digitalization was started in the 1990s. By wide use of internet many experiments (think of MOOCs in the early 2010s) went on. Then COVID pandemic hit the world and all educational institutions had to re-think online teaching and online education. Many points had to be considered and re-considered, depending on scope, age of learners, quality of internet and end-user devices etc.

The seminar will exchange ideas of current and future developments in online education, show best practice models, discuss solutions and foster exchange of ideas.

WHZ Zwickau has more than 30 years of experience in distant teaching and nearly 20 years in international distant online education, especially to the region of Central Asia. However, these experiences can be and should be adapted to other parts of the world. WHZ Zwickau is interested as well in receiving input from many participants who have developed own solutions for pressing questions in online education. The exchange in the seminars and forums will be valuable for both, participants and organizers alike.

Main objective is to enhance competence in answering the challenges of the Digitalization, Online Education, Economic and Societal Development in this context. Current trends and development in line with didactics, teaching, education, fitness for workforce etc. will be presented and discussed as well as topics concerning support systems and their impact on teachers, university structures, society, work environment and sustainability goals. The seminar and conference visit are offered by the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) in the framework of the programme SDG Alumni Projects (<http://www.daad.de/sdg-alumni-projects>). The International Germany Alumni Seminar is organized and hosted by the WHZ Zwickau University of Applied Sciences. The costs will be mainly covered by funds from the DAAD provided by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ).

The seminar is scheduled in the run-up to the conference Online Education Berlin OEB Conference 2022 (<https://oeb.global>).

## Tentative programme

The seminar programme in Zwickau will include:

- Sessions and workshops on academic teaching, digital teaching, online learning, electronic assessment, societal impact of the technological change including thorough discussions and exchange of ideas of participants.
- Presentations from the participating Alumni
- Group work activities and professional networking opportunities with scientists and the applied sector
- Excursions and cultural events

The final programme in Zwickau will be published once all applications have been reviewed.

### Travel dates:

- Tue 15<sup>th</sup> November 2022: Arrival in Zwickau
- 16<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup> February 2022: Seminar in Zwickau
- Tue 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2022: Travel from Zwickau to Berlin
- 23<sup>rd</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> February 2022: Participation in OEB 2022 Berlin
- Sat 26<sup>th</sup> February 2022: Departure from Berlin

It is necessary that you participate from the first day of the seminar in Zwickau to the last day of the conference Online Educa 2022 in Berlin.

**A Special Note on an alternative programme:** Given the world-wide pandemic and the current status of uncertainty of its development, DAAD will decide in due course to replace the event in Germany by an online version. This will imply modifications of the programme which will be announced to the participants. The alternative programme will rely on more and extended active contributions by participants

## Eligibility criteria for participation

This seminar targets Alumni of German universities

- who are engaged in online or distant teaching OR in providing services or technology for online or distant teaching,
- who carried out research or studied in Germany for at least 3 months, and
- who are currently living and working in their home countries, which has to be on the DAC list.

You should have

- (1) a **proven background in academic fields relevant to the topics** of online teaching (teacher, software developer didactics developer etc.), vocational education and training, academic education, and human resource development,
- (2) **professional experience and personal interest in one of the following areas**: : research, education, NGOs, government agencies, policy making, project development, local communities, and related stakeholders,
- (3) the **requirements to act as a potential change agent (multiplier)** who will present the training seminar results in your home country and thus disseminate the acquired knowledge as well as develop ideas and projects for regional implementation,
- (4) **adequate language proficiency** which is essential to actively participate in the workshops and discussions as the seminar will be held **in English**.

### **Eligibility for repeated attendances at SDG Alumni Projects:**

Participations in SDG Alumni Projects are limited to a maximum of 2 participations within 4 years. The year of participation, not the year of application, is decisive for the calculation. (This rule does not apply for attendance in a completely digital SDG Alumni Project.)

### **Cost coverage**

- International return ticket from and to airport in Germany (lowest possible economy class airfare)
- Train tickets (2nd class): Airport to Zwickau – preferably Rail & Fly
- Travel health insurance (max. 30 Euro) and visa costs  
*these three items up to a maximum amount of 920 € per person*
- Accommodation and meals during the stay in Zwickau during the seminar
- Transport on excursions
- Transport from Zwickau to Berlin
- Accommodation and partial living expenses during the participation at the conference OBE in Berlin
- Entrance fees for the OEB
- Transport from the hotel in Berlin to the departure airport

### **Please note:**

You must cover by yourself any other costs, such as transport costs between your place of residence and “your” airport, and travel costs for visa application in your country of residence. Please keep in mind that living expenses are only covered partly during your stay in Zwickau and Berlin.

**Extensions of stays** before the seminar/after the Zwickau-Berlin Seminar and OEB Conference 2022 are only possible up to 5 working days and upon submission of a comparison of flight ticket prices before you start your travel. You will have to pay any difference between the flight ticket prices for the official arrival/return date (see below) and your actual date of travel before/after your extension. You must also cover by yourself any additional travel costs, subsistence costs and other additional costs of your extension.

Extensions beyond 5 days must be of an official nature which you need to justify, e.g. through visits to universities, organizations, institutions, companies etc. and with details about contact persons and a day-to-day programme of activities. These extensions must be approved by DAAD before you start your travel. Decisions by DAAD are made on an individual nature based upon your justification, your programme etc.

For any extension, you need to organize your accommodation by yourself, and, very important, you must make sure to have a valid health insurance for the extension days as well as a valid visa for the additional days.

## Application procedure

Your application (in English language) should emphasize your motivation and personal/professional benefit for your participation. You should illustrate how you are planning to imply the gained knowledge and what possible stakeholders for collaboration you may identify for your professional career.

**Your application (in English language) must include the following documents in one single pdf file:**

- A filled-out application form: The form is available on [application form](#)
- A short CV with photograph and relevant documentation of Alumni status
- An abstract on “**Online Education – Challenges in the post-Covid aera**” (the main topics are listed above; abstracts must not exceed one page; please use font type “Arial”, font size 11, 1.5 line spacing).
- A short description of your present duties/ position and your personal professional goals, indicating your envisaged field of activities and duty level.
- An overview on seminars, workshops or conferences visited in Germany after finishing your studies in Germany.

The PDF-document should be named ‘**Last name\_First name\_country**’ (e.g. Mustermann\_Mara\_Germany).

Please send your application, **as one single pdf file, latest by 2<sup>nd</sup> Mai 2022 via mail:**  
[alumniwoche.org@fh-zwickau.de](mailto:alumniwoche.org@fh-zwickau.de)

**Please note: Completeness of personal data mentioned in the online application form will affect your eligibility as a participant.**

After the review by the local organizing committee and DAAD, the invited participants **will be notified by end of May.**

All current information can be found on our [homepage](#).

**For further questions**, please contact Claudia Winkelmann ([alumniwoche.org@fh-zwickau.de](mailto:alumniwoche.org@fh-zwickau.de)).

Zwickau, 29 March 2022



With financial support from the

