



### A Christmas message from the Director, Mrs. Beate Schindler-Kovaks

*Dear DAAD Partners, Alumni, Friends and Scholars,*

*Dear all,*

*An extraordinary year is almost coming to an end: at the beginning of the year 2020 none of us could have known what a challenge with what immense consequences for politics, economy, education and exchange we would have to cope with worldwide.*

*Even as the year draws to a close, the Corona Pandemic still has us firmly in its grip, and plans for next year are unforeseeable. In fact, for many of us our self-understanding "after Corona" will most likely be different than before.*

*The DAAD, as an exchange organisation for international mobility and cooperation, is affected by the pandemic worldwide in its programmes and projects with staff, partners and funding recipients. The DAAD is continuously following the developments on the corona virus and flexibly adapts its activities to changing situations. We are monitoring and researching with concern what effects the corona crisis will have on the internationalisation of the higher education sector. At the beginning of the crisis, universities in Germany and around the world switched quickly and effectively to digital formats for online study, to -conferences and to virtual meetings of all kinds. The DAAD Office in Nairobi, too, carried out digital scholarship selections in March, and has been offering online consultation hours and advice via web seminars. We have thus remained in contact with funding recipients and partners.*

*If there are winners in this crisis, then it is digitalisation that has released undreamt of energy and transported us all into a new age - and climate protection: thanks to virtual mobility, climate protection goals can be better achieved.*

*Thank you for your continuous support in this exceptional year. We were not able to implement all measures, activities and projects, but thanks to your cooperation we have achieved quite a good number of goals and now look forward to a more active 2021 together, with hopefully personal interactions and face-to-face meetings.*

*I wish you a Merry Christmas, a wonderful celebration with your loved ones and for all of us a healthy new year 2021.*

*Beate Schindler-Kovaks*

Beate Schindler-Kovaks

Director DAAD Regional Office for Africa, Nairobi

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## Sustainability and the DAAD: Our Contribution to the 2030 Agenda

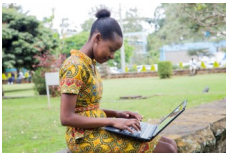


The DAAD makes important contributions to the global Sustainable Development Goals with German universities and their international partners. It also regards sustainability as a holistic responsibility for its own organisation.

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## DAAD reports a growing number of applicants



The DAAD has recorded a strong increase in the number of applications received for many scholarship programmes for next year, despite the COVID-19 pandemic, Brexit or restrictions for travelling to the US. More than 5,000 international students applied for a DAAD scholarship for a master's degree in Germany.

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## Foreign policy meets Science: Science Diplomacy



What is Science Diplomacy and what role does it play in German foreign policy? What are the success factors for a good Science Diplomacy and what challenges does it face? Can knowledge-based advice strengthen German foreign policy? These and other questions were discussed at the digital event "Foreign Policy Meets Science: Science Diplomacy!" on December 15, 2020.

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## Africa Knows! It is time to decolonize minds



2 December 2020 - 28 February 2021 #AfricaKnows

Africa Knows, an online conference which runs to February 2021, started with a special opening event on 2-4 December 2020. You may view the upcoming programme as well as recordings of the opening three days on their website.

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## 4th Call for Applications for DAAD climapAfrica Postdoc fellowships



The DAAD climapAfrica programme - Climate change research Alumni and Postdocs in Africa for future leaders in the field of climate research and protection - funds postdoctoral research projects and offers a platform for collaboration in thematic working groups composed of postdoctoral fellows and African alumni of German funding initiatives with expertise in the field of climate research.

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