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## Editorial

Nine months ago the first ZEF alumni reunion took place during ZEF's 10 years anniversary – time to start with

one of the new projects: a ZEF alumni newsletter. This newsletter will be published at least twice a year in electronic form and distributed by email.

This first issue is just a first try and we really wait for your input, feed back and ideas to improve this letter and make it to an information platform of the ZEF alumni network.

Currently, we have 205 former doctoral students from 48 countries in our alumni network, including 23 former external short-term participants. The ZEF development expert data base in the [internet](#) contains 203 expert profiles including several former senior staff members.

It is important to keep your profile on the [ZEF alumni website](#) updated. There you may fill in your professional achievements and new publications. Do not forget to inform us about any change of your mail or email address. We already have a few alumni without a valid address in our data base.

Günther Manske  
Coordinator ZEF Alumni Network

## **New features at the ZEF development expert website**

The ZEF development expert website contains the professional profiles of the alumni of the Bonn International Graduate School for Development Research (BIGS-DR) and former ZEF staff and fellows. Here you can present your qualifications and professional achievements which can be of interest to collaborators, to consultancies or in case you apply for a job. Your email address is hidden behind an email form to avoid spam mails.

We have changed the entrance page for this data base. Now you can search more easily by

- (i) [Country of residence](#)
- (ii) [Research area](#)
- (iii) [Profession](#)

We hope that this website helps you in your professional career. It would be nice to hear about any success stories from your side.

## **1997-2007 - Publications from 10 Years of Development Research**

Since its inception in 1997, ZEF researchers and visiting scientists have published 1432 scientific publications: 582 peer reviewed articles, 482 articles in books and series, 70 books, 143 discussion papers, working papers and policy briefs, as well as 155 PhD theses. The publications are listed in a book published on the occasion of ZEF's 10 Year Anniversary ([download here](#)). Many of the publications are available as digital copies at ZEF's website [www.zef.de](http://www.zef.de).

## **New features in the ZEF publication data base**

We have added new features to find the publications in the [ZEF publication database](#) more easily. Now, each publication is allocated to certain

strategic research areas. These are the ZEF research areas plus some other topics like Development Macroeconomics, Development Microeconomics, Urbanisation, Education, Research Methods and Theories of Development.

Please allocate your new publications to one of the research areas.

You may search the publication data base also by any key word(s) in the title and by year of publication.

## **Report from the Alumni Meeting in October 2007**

Thirty-three ZEF alumni from 22 countries attended ZEF's 10th year anniversary conference in October 2007. Twenty of them received financial support to travel to Bonn.

We wanted to use this reunion for stocktaking and for demonstrating the long-term benefits of the education provided by ZEF. We also asked the invited alumni to write up their biographies and share their personal stories with us. The outcome is published in a booklet which is [available here for download](#).

The German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) has also reported about the ZEF Alumni Meeting on its website ([click here for download](#)).



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At the meeting in October 2007, the alumni had many new ideas for future activities of the ZEF Alumni Network and made suggestions for improvements:

#### Improvements for the network communication

- Creating an E-newsletter distributed among ZEF-list or alumni (better than a blog),
- Improving features and content of the alumni website,
- Space for movie clips related to our research,
- Scale pop-up. Automatical email reminding you that your alumni site has not been visited/updated for more than one year.

It was suggested to simplify access to the ZEF alumni website by using only one common password. However everyone needs her/his own login and password to access and update his/her own profile. We have not yet found a solution for this.

#### Improvements of the network structure

- Suggestion for three branches (Asia, Africa, Latin America)
- The need for a representative or committee of alumni has been expressed.

#### Lifelong training

- Workshops: exchange among alumni; training; exchange of knowledge; personal contact
- Organize long-term courses in different regions- in order to exchange ideas
- Workshops in Africa and Asia
- Training courses for ZEF alumni

#### Alumni Network as a resource for training and research at ZEF

- Use of human resources from alumni programs to give lectures in BIGS-DR.
- Public lectures given by alumni; a list of public lectures where alumni could contribute.

- Partnership projects with ZEF (maybe through alumni contacts)

### **Appeal for a ZEF Alumni Fund**

The alumni had also the idea to collect money and set up a ZEF Alumni Fund to support PhD students during their study at ZEF and field work. Many ZEF alumni believe that they found a good position due to their PhD study at ZEF, and it may now be time to pay back.

We will start with the collection now. We need around 12.000 Euro to finance a one-year scholarship for a PhD student. We don't know yet, if it is possible to collect this amount of money. The amount collected will be announced at the end of the year. Then we will decide together how to proceed. In case we do not meet the goal of a full scholarship, a smaller amount can also be very useful to help students finance their field research. You will be informed in detail about the allocation of the donated money.

Your contributions are tax deductible if you pay taxes in Germany.

Any contribution will be highly appreciated. Please transfer your donation to the following bank account

#### *Account owner:*

Gesellschaft der Freunde der  
Entwicklungsforschung e.V.

#### *Address:*

Walter-Flex-Str. 3, 53113 Bonn

*Bank:* Sparkasse KölnBonn

*Account:* Konto 8.552.721

*BLZ:* 37050198

*IBAN:* DE21370501980008552721

*BIC:* COLSDE33

*Purpose:* **ZEF Alumni Fund**

I hope you will respond well to this appeal for support of ZEF students.

## Lifelong Uni-Bonn email account

You may continue your email (...@uni-bonn.de) lifelong for free. You only have to register at the Uni-Bonn Alumni Network. The registration is online at [www.uni-bonn.de](http://www.uni-bonn.de) go to Alumni Netzwerke > Angebote > Uni Bonn Email-Adresse. Unfortunately, the registration form is only in German. In the form you have also the choice of a membership at the Friends of the Universität Bonn (annual fee 30 Euro).

## News from DAAD-Alumni Network

DAAD wishes to support its former scholarship holders and therefore enlarges its offers for the alumni.

From now on, each scholarship holder and each alumni will have the opportunity to use a web based email-account for free. This email service will simplify the communication between the scholarship holder and the alumni. It will also be the main means of communication via which DAAD will inform you about news and offers in the future. With the aid of his email service, you can operate your entire electronic communication.

The advantages of the service at a glance:

- regular information on the DAAD-Alumni-Network
- invitations to alumni-events
- electronic DAAD-newsletter
- information about job offers
- email-account with 1GB memory capacity
- forwarding, SPAM- and virus filter

The new service is for free and offers the possibility to redirect incoming emails to your present email-address. Please register for the email-service at:

<http://webmail.daad-alumni.de/reg/index.php>

Do you already know the DAAD-Alumni forum? At [www.daad.de/alumni](http://www.daad.de/alumni), you can get more information about this offer, update you personal information online, come into contact with other alumni, exchange information and experiences or inform yourself about jobs.

In case you have any questions or suggestions please contact the DAAD-Alumni-Team at [www.daad.de/alumni](http://www.daad.de/alumni).

## Miscellaneous

Check the ZEF Alumni Website regularly! Every week. New announcements about jobs and conferences worldwide are available in the *News* section.

Please contact me, in case you don't remember your login or password.

## Downloads

The new brochure of the Bonn International Graduate School for Development Research (BIGS-DR)

10 Years of Development Research by ZEF

The new ZEF strategy paper



Let's stay in touch!