



ZEF alumni news

No. 5, December 2012

It is December and the end of the year 2012. Therefore, it's time for reviewing the past year. 2012 was eventful for ZEF: Awards and prizes were received, important visits from ZEF alumni paid, theses defended, and publications released. Moreover, over 100 alumni participated in the DAAD alumni survey 2011. We received the results prior to the survey's official publishing so we can give you a "preview". It helps us a lot to improve our research efforts and keep our work successful. Read all about it in the ZEF Alumni Newsletter 2012!

We also would like to wish you a happy New Year and thank you for staying in contact with ZEF!

Günther Manske



Jan Börner is new Robert Bosch Junior Professor at ZEF

Dr. Jan Börner was inaugurated as a Robert Bosch Junior Professor at the University of Bonn on March 22.



He started his five-year-research on the sustainable use and the variety of conflicts stemming from the utilization of tropical rain forests in Brazil at ZEF in August 2012. Jan Börner is a former ZEF doctoral student who wrote his doctoral thesis on "A bio-economic model of smallholder land use decisions and technology choice in the Eastern Brazilian Amazon", which he defended in 2006.

For a detailed profile of Dr. Jan Börner and more information on the Junior Professorship please visit the [Website](#) of the Robert Bosch Stiftung.

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The WASCAL Graduate Research Programs welcome their first doctoral students

Four West African universities started their doctoral training programs within the West African Science Service Center on Climate Change and Adapted Land Use (WASCAL) initiative in January 2012. WASCAL is a research and capacity development program sponsored by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) and coordinated and implemented by ZEF. Under the WASCAL program, graduate research programs at eight universities will be run in West Africa, focusing on selected priority areas of the climate change - land use nexus.

Forty students from the ten WASCAL project countries (Benin, Burkina Faso, Cote d'Ivoire, Gambia, Ghana, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, and Togo) were selected as the first batch of students. The four graduate research programs that have started already are hosted by: the Federal University of Technology, Akure (FUTA), Nigeria, for the West African Climate System; the University Abomey Calavi, Benin, for Climate Change and Water Resources; the University Cheikh Anta Diop, Senegal for Climate Change Economics and the Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology (KNUST), Ghana for Climate Change and Land Use. WASCAL will provide, among others, funds for students' stipends and thesis research, laboratory and teaching equipment, refurbishment of infrastructure for classrooms and offices, and travel of lecturers from West Africa and Germany.

There is a lead article about WASCAL in the latest ZEF Newsletter available at <http://www.zef.de/zefnews.html>

Project website: www.wascal.org

Prof. Joachim von Braun was appointed to the Vatican's Academy of Science

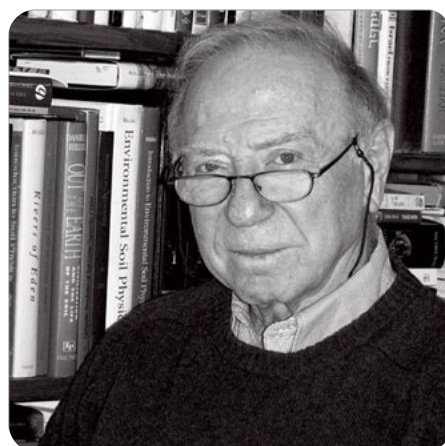
Pope Benedict XVI. has appointed Prof. Joachim von Braun for life to the Vatican's Academy of Science on



October 8, 2012. The Pontifical Academy, which was founded in 1603, is a supranational academy and has about 80 members. The members are chosen from the most eminent scientists of the world and participate together in meetings to analyze specific issues from basic sciences and also science related to human development themes.

Prof. Daniel Hillel named 2012 World Food Prize Laureate

Prof. Daniel Hillel was named the winner of the 2012 World Food Prize during a ceremony at the U.S. State Department, at which Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton delivered the keynote address. Prof. Hillel developed the drip irrigation in a radically innovative way of bringing water to crops in arid and dry-land regions. He has been a lecturer for several years in the ZEF doctoral studies program and was also Senior Fellow of ZEFc. See also: <http://www.worldfoodprize.org/index.cfm?nodeID=47890&audienceID=1>



<http://www.worldfoodprize.org/index.cfm?nodeID=47890&audienceID=1>

The World Food Prize was founded in 1986 by Dr. Norman E. Borlaug, recipient of the 1970 Nobel Peace Prize. Since then, The World Food Prize has honored outstanding individuals who have made vital contributions to improving the quality, quantity or availability of food throughout the world. Laureates have been recognized from Bangladesh, Brazil, China, Denmark, Ethiopia, Ghana, India, Mexico, Sierra Leone, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, the United Nations and the United States.

DAAD Alumni Survey 2011: Preview

The DAAD (German Academic Exchange Service) compared 44 doctoral and other academic studies such as Master's in an international survey conducted in 2011. Around 2,700 alumni responded to the questionnaire - around 100 of them were ZEF alumni. They had to answer questions about their doctoral studies at ZEF and their careers after finishing their studies. We would like to present you the main results in advance. The complete survey is to be published soon.

- *Seventy-five percent of the ZEF respondents were employed right after finishing their doctorate and have been employed continuously ever since. This is a higher percentage than alumni from the other programs covered in the DAAD survey. Most ZEF respondents work for the same employer as they have been working before (37%).*
- *Twenty-six percent of the respondents found their first employment through applications whereas 16% found it through contacts in Germany. More ZEF respondents got job opportunities through contacts in Germany than the other respondents. Forty-five percent of ZEF survey participants needed less than one month to find the first employment.*
- *ZEF respondents improved their professional positions after receiving their doctorate and attained more recognition and respect from colleagues and business partners than before; also their cross-cultural skills had improved.*
- *Approximately 71% of ZEF respondents stay in research/education after graduation - compared to 65% in the other PhD programs in the survey. Thirty-nine percent of the ZEF respondents currently earn 3,000 US\$ or more per month.*
- *The ZEF respondents ranked as the best features of the ZEF doctoral studies program: computer access, the library, seminar facilities and the interdisciplinarity.*
- *Sixty-eight percent of the ZEF survey participants return to their home country after graduation.*
- *Most of the ZEF respondents come from sub-Saharan Africa (39%). This is more than in other PhD (25%) or in all other programs (24%). Second largest region of prior permanent residence is Asia (25%), followed by Germany (13%).*
- *Fifty-three percent of ZEF respondents received a scholarship from DAAD and 43% received other scholarships.*

Awards for ZEF alumni

ZEF Friends' Prize for best doctoral thesis alumni awarded at ZEF

On September 10, this year's ZEF Friends' Prize for the best doctoral thesis written at ZEF during the past two years was awarded to Dr. Alam Hossain Mondal. He received the prize of 1,500 Euro for his doctoral thesis on "Implications of renewable energy technologies in the Bangladesh power sector: Longterm planning



strategies".

Alam Hossain Mondal is a ZEF alumnus from Bangladesh and currently working at the Masdar Institute of Science and Technology in Abu Dhabi. He finished his doctoral thesis at ZEF in 2010. The prize has been awarded on a bi-annual basis by the "Friends of ZEF" for five times now. We warmly congratulate Alam Mondal on his success!

Find further information about Alam Mondal [here](#) and watch [the video of the ceremony](#).

ZEF alumna receives KfW prize

Dr. Nadine Reis, a ZEF alumna, received this year's KfW prize for promoting practice-relevant development research for her doctoral thesis on "Tracing and making the state-policy practice and domestic water supply in the Mekong Delta, Vietnam". The prize was



awarded during the annual Conference of the Research Committee on Development Economics and Policy of the German Economic Association (VfS) on June 22-23 at ZEF. Around 120 experts from the economic and social sciences participated in the ceremony. Nadine Reis is currently working as a scientific assistant at the Institute for Social and Development Studies at the Munich School of Philosophy.

Find an [interview](#) and more [information](#) about Nadine Reis online.

ZEF alumnus awarded by the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation

Dr. René Capote-Fuentes (ZEF batch 2003) has been awarded by the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation a Georg Forster Research Fellowship for postdoctoral researchers for one year (November 2012 – October 2013). The academic host for the Fellowship is a ZEF Senior Fellow, Prof. Dr. Ulrike Grote, director at the Institute for Environmental Economics and World Trade, Leibniz University Hannover. The research project will deal with “Fairtrade coffee: challenges facing producer organizations in the context of conventional mainstream trade”. René Capote-Fuentes has been a Global Product Officer Coffee at Fairtrade International FLO e.V. since December 2009. He received his doctoral degree in July 2007 from the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences of Bonn University for research on ecological systems on the south coast of his home country Cuba.



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Doctoral defenses 2012

Andreas Wilde (Germany)

“What is beyond the river? Power, authority and social order in eighteenth- and nineteenth-century Transoxania”

January 11

Juliet Akello (Uganda)

“Biodiversity of fungal endophytes associated with maize, sorghum and napier grass and the influence of biopriming on resistance to leaf mining, stem boring and sap sucking insect pests”

February 21

Stephen Mutie Wambua (Kenya)

“Household energy consumption and dependency on common pool forest resources: The case of Kakamega forest, Western Kenya”

March 26

Grace Villamor (Phillipines)

“Flexibility of multi-agent system models for rubber agroforest landscapes and social response to emerging reward mechanisms for ecosystem services in Sumatra, Indonesia”

April 4

Samir Maskur (Indonesia)

“The sustainability of the Acehese Jama’at Tabligh Movement through the formation of social network”

June 4

Evita Pangaribowo (Indonesia)

“Household food consumption, women’s asset and food policy in Indonesia”

June 8

Nina Langen (Germany)

“Fair Trade versus aid: An analysis from a consumer and producer perspective”

June 25

Asghar Tahmasebi (Iran)

“Pastoralism under pressure: Vulnerability of pastoral nomads to multiple socio-political and climate stresses – the Shahsevan of Northwest Iran”

June 28

Nana Ata Arthur (Ghana)

“The unfinished business of decentralization: Political accountability of local government in Ghana”

July 6

Tapiwa Uchizi Nyasulu (Malawi)

“Governance and customary land tenure in peri-urban Kasoa in Ghana”

August 27

Ramli Nordin (Malaysia)

“Creating Knowledge-Based Clusters through Urban Development: A Study of Cyberjaya, MSC Malaysia”

September 18

Anastasiya Shtaltovna (Ukraine)

“Servicing transformation: agricultural service organizations and agrarian change in post-soviet Uzbekistan”

October 1

Joseph Kugbe (Ghana)

“Spatio-temporal Dynamics of Bush-fire Nutrient

Losses and Atmospheric Depositional Gains Across the Northern Savanna Region of Ghana”

October 5

Shimeles Damene Shiene (Ethiopia)

“Effectiveness of soil and water conservation measures for degraded land restoration: a case of Wello, northern Ethiopian highland”

October 31

Aziz Karimov (Uzbekistan)

“An Economic Efficiency Analysis of Crop Producing Farms in Uzbekistan: Explanatory Factors and Estimation Techniques”

Abdul Salam Lodhi (Pakistan)

“Education, Child Labor and Human Capital Formation in Selected Urban and Rural Setting of Pakistan”

Akmal Akramhanov (ZEF alumnus from Uzbekistan) is now Senior Researcher at Khorezm Rural Advisory Support Service (KRASS) – a non-governmental and non-profit organization that aims to contribute to improvement of rural livelihoods and environmental sustainability in rural Uzbekistan through agricultural support services. <http://krass.uz/>

Alexander Stein (ZEF alumnus from Germany) is working now as a Research Coordinator at the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) in Washington, US. <http://www.ifpri.org/staffprofile/Alexander-Stein>

Aseffa Seyoum Wedajoo (ZEF alumnus from Ethiopia) has joined the University of Illinois at Chicago as a Post-Doctoral Research Fellow in the work of Genetic Resources Policy since January 2012.

Chodechai Suwanaporn (ZEF alumnus from Thailand) is now the Executive Vice President, Economics & Energy Policy, of PTT Public Company Limited in Thailand.

Dietrich Müller-Falcke (ZEF alumnus from Germany) has now a position as Head of Controlling Strategic Network Development at Telekom Deutschland GmbH.

Faisal Abbas (ZEF alumnus from Pakistan) is now an Assistant Professor at the Department of Management Sciences, COMSATS Institute of Information Technology (CIIT) in Islamabad, Pakistan. <http://www.ciit.edu.pk/>

Farhat Naz (ZEF alumna from India) has been selected to present her work on the theme of “Groundwater Management in Gujarat, India” at the International Alumni Summer School on ‘Water Resources and Management in a Changing World’ from 24th September to 5th October, organized by Department of Geography at University of Bonn and Institute for Technology and Resources Management in the Tropics and Subtropics (ITT) of the Cologne University of Applied Sciences, Germany.

Felix Ankohma Asante and **Samuel Nii Ardey Codjoe** (ZEF alumni from Ghana) have been promoted to the rank of Associate Professors at the University of Ghana, Legon-Accra. **Edward Nketiah-Amponsah** (also ZEF alumnus from Ghana) has been promoted to the rank of Senior Lecturer at the same university.



Boaz Waswa celebrates obtaining his doctoral degree with friends

November 27

Boaz Shaban Waswa (Kenya)

“Assessment of Land Degradation Patterns in Western Kenya: Implications for Restoration and Rehabilitation”

December 13

Farah Purwaningrum (Indonesia)

“Knowledge Governance in an Industrial Cluster: the Collaboration between Academia-Industry-Government in Indonesia”

Career News from ZEF alumni

Adama Konseiga (ZEF alumnus from Burkina Faso) joined the Ministry of Tourism, Government of Quebec, Canada in June 2012. He is in charge now of modeling tourism demand at the Directorate of Evaluation and Strategic Planning.

Flávia da Fonseca Feitosa (ZEF alumna from Brazil) is now working as a Research Associate at the National Institute for Space Research (INPE), Sao Jose dos Campos, in Brazil. <http://www.inpe.br/ingles/>

Frank Mussnug (ZEF alumnus from Germany) is now Nutrient Management Specialist / Soil Scientist at the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) in the Philippines. <http://www.irri.org/>

Gerd Rückert (ZEF alumnus from Germany) coordinated the PACE-Net Key Stakeholder Conference for strengthening Pacific-European collaboration in research, development and innovation in Brussels on March, 20-23, 2012.

Gert Jan Veldwisch (ZEF alumnus from Netherlands) is now Assistant Professor for Irrigation and Development at the Wageningen University.

Haryani Anwar (ZEF alumnus from Indonesia) attended the Summer School for International Nutrition in Potsdam, "Double Burden of Malnutrition" on September 20-28, funded by DAAD.

Ira Matuschke (ZEF alumna from Germany) is now working as an Agricultural Policy Analyst at the Trade and Agriculture Directorate of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

Irina Forkutsa (ZEF alumna from Uzbekistan) is now working as the LUCA project coordinator in the field of natural sciences at the Center for International Development and Environmental Research, Justus Liebig University Giessen. <http://www.uni-giessen.de/cms/faculties/research-centers/zeu-en>

Jonatan Lassa (ZEF alumnus from Indonesia) is now working at the Institute of Resource Governance and Social Change in Indonesia. <http://www.irgsc.org/>

Joseph Intsiful (ZEF alumnus from Ghana) is working now as an expert for Climate Change Data and Information Management at UNOPS. www.unops.org

Juliet Akello (ZEF alumna from Uganda) is now working as a Senior Lecturer at the Department of Agronomy of the Umutara Polytechnic University in Rwanda.

Lazare Tia (ZEF alumnus from Côte d'Ivoire) is now the Head of the Geomatics Lab (GIS and Remote Sensing applied to environmental research) at the Swiss Center for Scientific Research (CSRS) in Côte d'Ivoire.

Nana Ato Arthur from Ghana and ZEFa, who received is doctoral degree in 2012, won as a candidate of the New Patriotic Party a parliamentary seat at the National Democratic Congress of Ghana.

Pepijn Schreinemachers (ZEF alumnus from Netherlands) found a new job at AVRDC – The World Vegetable Center in Tainan, Taiwan. (By the way: He and Prasnee Tipragosa, also ZEF alumna from Thailand, became parents of twin girls this July. Congratulations!)

Ramli Nordin (ZEF alumnus from Malaysia) has been appointed as a Principal Assistant Director of the Knowledge-Economy Section in the Economic Planning Unit of Prime Minister's Department at the Federal Government of Malaysia.

Sayan Chakrabarty (ZEF alumnus from Bangladesh) is now working as a Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the University of Southern Queensland, Australia. His area of work is social and economic impact assessment of introducing mobile technologies in higher education. He is also working for the Australian Centre for Sustainable Business and Development.

Tapiwa Uchizi Nyasulu (ZEF alumna from Malawi) is now working as a Regional Coordinator for Southern Africa at Transparency International in Berlin. www.transparency.org

William Tsuma (ZEF alumnus from Kenya) has assumed a new role as head of UNDP's Dialogue and Peacebuilding Cluster in Zimbabwe.

Samuel Nii Ardey Codjoe (batch 2000 from Ghana) has been appointed Director, Regional Institute for Population Studies, University of Ghana, Legon (August 2012 – August 2015) and elected as Vice President, Union for African Population Studies (January 2012-December 2015). In 2011, he received also the award of best researcher of the Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Ghana.

Meeting at conferences

ZEF alumni often meet other alumni at conference. For instance, six alumni met at “Already Beyond? – 40 years Limits of Growth”, a conference funded by the Volkswagen Foundation to mark the 40th anniversary of the “Limits to Growth” study by Dennis Meadows and others, as well as to underline its relevance for the future of humankind. The conference was held on November 28-29, 2012 in Hanover, Germany. <http://www.volkswagenstiftung.de/veranstaltungen/hsltg.html>

The picture shows ZEF alumni Ihtiyor Bobojonov, Aziz Karimov, Daniel Callo-Concha, and Tyler Frazier together with Dennis L. Meadows. Not in the picture are Matin Qaim and Andreas Havemann, who also attended this conference.



Visits of alumni to ZEF

ZEF alumna Judith Ehlert talked at University about her doctoral thesis

On June 30, ZEF alumna and senior researcher Judith Ehlert held a talk about her doctoral thesis “Beautiful floods - Environmental knowledge and agrarian change in the Mekong Delta in Vietnam” at the Faculty of Arts, Bonn University. Her thesis was one of the three doctoral theses awarded “summa cum laude” of about

60 Faculty students who finished their theses last semester at the University of Bonn.



Prof. Dörr held a presentation at ZEF

Andrea Cristina Dörr (ZEF alumna from 2009) held a presentation about “Adoptation of organic certification by citrus farmers in the South of Brazil” at ZEF on August 19.



Selected new discussion papers from ZEF

Available at <http://www.zef.de/discussionpapers.html>

- Global Food Price Volatility and Spikes: An Overview of Costs, Causes, and Solutions (No. 161).
- Integration, social distress, and policy formation (No. 162).
- Policy responses to a dark side of the integration of regions and nations (No. 163).
- A back-door brain drain (No. 164).
- Infrastructure in developing countries: An overview of some economic issues (No. 165).
- Price Volatility, Speculation and Excessive Speculation in Commodity Markets: sheep or shepherd behaviour? (No. 166).
- The role of virtual water for sustainable economic restructuring: evidence from Uzbekistan, Central Asia (No. 167).
- Migration networks as a response to financial constraints: Onset and endogenous dynamics (No. 168).
- The role of scarcity in global virtual water flows (No. 169).
- Do family ties with those left behind intensify or weaken migrant’s assimilation? (No. 170).

Miscellaneous

Freely accessible scientific literature

InTech is a world leader in the provision of STM Open Access contents, including books and journals. It breaks down the traditional barriers to publishing and provides authors with new choices and an equal opportunity to share their ideas and the results of their research with the global scientific community. Have a look and register at <http://www.intechweb.org>.

Portal for international cooperation in education and research of the BMBF

The Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) in Germany has relaunched its Internet portal for international cooperation: <http://www.kooperation-international.de/en.html>. This is also a communication

Lifelong Uni-Bonn email account

You can utilize your email account (...@uni-bonn.de) with Bonn University lifelong for free. You only have to register at the Uni-Bonn Alumni Network. The registration is online at www.uni-bonn.de, go to Ehemalige / Alumni > Alumni > Internetportal für Alumni > Angebote > E-Mail@uni-bonn.de. Unfortunately, the registration form is only in German. You can also become a member of the Friends of the University Bonn (annual fee 30 Euro) (choose the respective option in the registration form).

platform for those seeking information and cooperation partners in Germany and abroad. You can also register for a newsletter.

The GC21 E-Academy: The online academy for worldwide learning

The Global Campus 21 E-Academy enables participants to gain professional expertise, managerial skills and leadership experience and to extend and pass them on in developing countries by means of new learning media. It offers tutored online courses and courses for self-paced learning to numerous topics (like Sustainable Economics, Climate and Environmental Protection and much more). Participants from all over the world use these online courses and learning space to learn

New ZEF calendar

The new ZEF calendar is available! If you want to have one please send us an email with your current address to docp.zef@uni-bonn.de.

together, share their experiences and collaborate on projects. More at <http://www.gc21-eacademy.org/>.

IPBES secretariat will be located in Bonn

The secretariat of Intergovernmental Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, a global platform on biodiversity and its benefits, will be located in Bonn, Germany. The German offer won the voting which took place during the second plenary session to build IPBES, in Panama City, Panama. IPBES will be an interface between the scientific community and policy makers that aims to build capacity for and strengthen the use

of science in policy making. More at www.ipbes.net

LEAP fellowship grant opportunities for students from Sub-Saharan Africa

The Norman E. Borlaug Leadership Enhancement in Agriculture Program (LEAP) is seeking applications for fellowship grant opportunities for students from sub-Saharan Africa. LEAP is a fellowship program, funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), to enhance the quality of thesis research of graduates from developing countries who are promising leaders in the field of agriculture and related disciplines. Applications are requested on topics to USAID's global hunger and food security initiative – FEED THE FUTURE. Awards are made on a competitive basis and funds are available for one-year and cannot

ZEF on facebook

If you are interested in reading regular news and announcements about ZEF then join us on facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Zentrum-f%C3%BCr-Entwicklungsforschung-Center-for-Development-Research-ZEF/124474147611907?fref=ts>

The facebook site also contains photos of different ZEF events – like the Bonn University's Science Night 2012!

exceed US\$20,000. The application deadline is January 17, 2013 for considered fellowships beginning in May 1, 2013. More at <http://leap.ucdavis.edu/>.

Selected new publications from ZEF alumni

Abbas, F., and Choudhury, N., 2012. Electricity

New job announcements

Check the ZEF Alumni Website regularly! New announcements about jobs and conferences worldwide are published in the News section. Please keep your profile at the ZEF database of development experts updated: <http://www.zef.de/experts.html>. You can update your profile at the ZEF alumni portal <http://www.zef.de/alumni/>. Use your old login and password for the ZEF intranet. Please contact us in case you don't remember your login or password.

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Host Communities: The Case of Liberian Refugees in Ghana. *Journal of International Migration and Integration*. DOI 10.1007/s12134-012-0249-1.

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