



Ibarra/Lüneburg, 18 June 2009

International DAAD-Alumni Seminar “Education for Sustainable Development and Biodiversity”

From 25 October to 1 November 2009 the international DAAD-alumni seminar “Education for Sustainable Development and Biodiversity” will be realized in Ibarra, Ecuador (25 October day of arrival, 1 November day of departure). This seminar is jointly organized by the Instituto de Postgrado of the Universidad Técnica del Norte (Ibarra, Ecuador) and the Institute for Environmental and Sustainability Communication of the Leuphana University of Lüneburg (Germany) in cooperation with the Institute for Ecology and Environmental Chemistry. The German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) is providing financial support to organize this seminar.

The Topics and Aims

The main topic of the international DAAD-alumni seminar is “Education for Sustainable Development and Biodiversity”. Papers of participants and invited guests as well as group discussions will address the question how education for sustainable development in Ecuador and other Latin American countries can contribute to the creation of awareness about the importance of biodiversity and to the conservation of biodiversity.

The following key topics will be covered:

- Nature and environmental education
- Education for sustainable development (ESD)
- Importance of biodiversity for sustainable development
- Biodiversity conservation and management
- Governance and biodiversity conservation
- Role of participation for the management of biodiversity conservation
- Development of key competencies for the sustainable management and use of biodiversity

The main aims of the seminar are the following:

- Promoting exchange between the participants in the field of ESD and biodiversity conservation
- Facilitating international scientific alliances
- Qualifying the participants in the field of ESD and biodiversity conservation
- Exchanging experiences and setting up networks between the participants
- Facilitating the discourse about scientific questions with regard to biodiversity conservation and promoting the international academic cooperation in this field
- Developing ideas for joint research projects on ESD and biodiversity conservation

The Program

The program will include:

- Papers and case studies presented by the participants (alumni) and invited experts
- Group work and group discussions
- Excursions in the surroundings of Ibarra and to the Eastern Ecuadorian Rainforest (Oriente)

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Cost Coverage

Following costs will be covered by the project:

- international return flight, arrive and depart Quito: cost subsidy EUR 600 (approx. USD 840) maximum (based on receipts)
- transport from Quito airport to Ibarra (by bus)
- transport from Ibarra to the Oriente and to Quito
- entrance fees to the projects which will be visited during the excursions
- accommodation and living costs during the stay in Ecuador
- international airport tax to be paid when leaving Ecuador

All other costs, such as transport costs from participants' home town to their home airport, are participants' responsibility.

Participants

The participants of the international seminar should be

- Alumni of a German university from a Latin American country
- Working in the field of education for sustainable development and/or in the field of biodiversity management and conservation
- "Multipliers", e.g. people who are in a position to spread the acquired knowledge and experience

Application

Are you interested? Then your submission should include the following documents (in English):

- A letter of application, clarifying your motivation for participation
- A short CV with personal data, information on studies at home and in Germany and professional development
- A portrait photo in digital or printed form
- A short description of your present duties/position and your personal professional goals, indicating your envisaged field of activities and duty level
- A short abstract of a presentation you would like to give during the international seminar (the main topics are listed above; abstracts should not exceed one page; please use font type "Arial", font size 11, 1.5 line spacing)

The international seminar will be held mainly in English (only partly in Spanish). Therefore, sufficient language skills will be essential to follow the presentations and participate in the discussions.

Please send your application until **Friday, 17 July 2009** to Marco Rieckmann, Leuphana University of Lüneburg, email: rieckmann@uni.leuphana.de. For any further questions, please contact also Marco Rieckmann.



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