

# HUMBOLDT UNIVERSITY OF BERLIN

## CENTRE FOR ADVANCED TRAINING IN RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SLE)



### Centre for Advanced Training in Rural Development

The Centre for Advanced Training in Rural Development (SLE) is an organisational unit of the Agricultural-Horticultural Faculty at the Humboldt University of Berlin, jointly financed by the Senat of Berlin and the Federal Government. Its main task is to implement a one-year supplementary training programme. Other areas of work include consultancy and research as well as seminars and workshops on special topics of international cooperation. Our team consists of three academic professionals, two administrative employees and 25 free-lance colleagues.

### Postgraduate Study Programme

For more than forty years we have trained specialists and management personnel in the field of international cooperation. The necessary expertise is provided in a one-year interdisciplinary training programme that covers planning and team management as well as consultancy techniques, communication skills and crisis prevention. While the training content is strictly geared to the requirements and challenges of international cooperation, learning by doing is high on the agenda as methods are rehearsed and applied in practice. Our team supervises this learning process closely, fostering the individual qualifications and strong points of each participant in preparation for work in the field.

Three-month overseas assignments are an essential feature of the programme. Groups of 4-5 participants carry out consultancies for projects/organisations abroad under the supervision of experienced consultants and have the opportunity of applying their acquired knowledge and abilities. Since 1972, SLE has conducted 114 consultancies in 59 countries.

### Target Groups

Our target groups are university graduates, mostly from European Union countries, with a masters degree in social science, economics or agricultural science who are interested in a long-term position in the field of international cooperation. Graduates of administrative sciences, gender studies and law are also welcome if their studies are relevant to international cooperation. Twenty participants are chosen annually from a total of 200 applicants, in accordance with their knowledge, experience, motivation and personal aptitude.



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## Professional career after SLE

SLE graduates have sound prospects of finding a position in the field of development cooperation, despite today's increasingly difficult labour market situation. The SLE graduate study programme has proved to be an additional qualification highly regarded by employing organisations. We assist graduates with individual career counselling and long-standing contacts to the principal German and international institutions active in the field of development cooperation.

GTZ, DED, KfW and BMZ, as well as international agencies such as the FAO and UN or EU organisations are some of the employing organisations. A further area of work open to SLE graduates is provided by non-profit organisations (development agencies of the Church, for example), national and international non-governmental organisations, and consulting firms specialised in international cooperation

## Entry Requirements

- Masters degree
- Good knowledge of English and German (additional languages an advantage)
- Fitness for work in the tropics
- Particular interest in development policies
- EU citizenship or, in the case of citizens from developing countries, a masters degree permitting a postgraduate course at Humboldt-University

Successful applicants will receive a monthly scholarship of Euro 713 (25 % grant, 75 % loan).

## Content of the One-Year Postgraduate Study Programme

<b>Introduction</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Concept of German development cooperation</li><li>▪ Interpersonal communication</li><li>▪ Team work and management</li></ul>
<b>Basic Principles</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Basic economic terms</li><li>▪ Participation in international development</li><li>▪ Project management (planning, monitoring and evaluation)</li><li>▪ International conventions on environment</li><li>▪ Moderation and presentation techniques</li><li>▪ Development policy symposium</li><li>▪ Regional rural development and decentralisation</li><li>▪ Crisis prevention and conflict transformation</li><li>▪ Organisational development</li></ul>



<b>Overseas consultancy assignment</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Preparation for consultancy assignments based on the concept of action- and decision-oriented research</li> <li>▪ Overseas consultancy assignments in Africa, Asia, Latin America and transformation countries (3 months)</li> </ul>
<b>Final phase</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Presentation and discussion of consultancy results</li> <li>▪ Completion of reports</li> <li>▪ Presentation of overseas consultancy results to clients</li> <li>▪ Public relation work and media</li> <li>▪ Career advice</li> <li>▪ Evaluation of study year</li> </ul>

### Dates and Admittance

The graduate study programme begins in January and continues – without interruption – until December. The closing date for applications is 31<sup>st</sup> July. Candidates are chosen by a selection committee at the end of October.

Application forms and further details about SLE are available on the Internet or can be sent on request. SLE colleagues are happy to give individual advice to future applicants if required.

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