
International Cooperation for Sustainable Development

The postgraduate study program at the Centre for Rural Development

A summary for interested candidates





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Why should one apply for the postgraduate program at the SLE?

The SLE offers the postgraduate program to the benefit of participants (students) in the following ways:

- The program is a bridge between theory and practice.
- Expert trainers provide insight into critical topics.
- There is a wide offering of courses.
- Three study slots are reserved for participants from Germany, Austria, and Switzerland.
- The program focuses on ecological, sustainable, and socially inclusive development.
- The SLE prepares you with a 6-month study project in collaboration with cooperation partners.
- As a part of the study project, participants spend three months abroad.
- There is an interdisciplinary focus in regard to topics covered.
- Project management and knowledge of newest methods for project implementation are key components of the program.
- Professional orientation and coaching are provided.
- Teamwork is relevant as a framework for all components of the program.
- There is a focus on personal development.
- The alumni network for the SLE is vast.
- Participants have an excellent grasp of relevant employers.
- The program greatly builds one's profile as an employee in the field of development cooperation.

Cooperation partners of the SLE:

Components of the postgraduate program

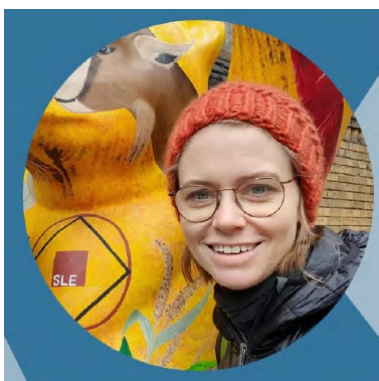
- Communication, teamwork, and development cooperation-specific management methods
 - Moderating processes and events
 - Working effectively in teams
 - Participatory methods for workshops and meetings
 - Monitoring and evaluation in the field of development cooperation
 - Conflict management and strategic negotiation
- Action and decision-oriented research and Joint International Research Projects (JIRPs)
 - Preparation of content and methods in Berlin
 - Implementation of the project in partner countries
- Theory, politics, and strategies of more sustainable development
 - Ecosystems and nutrition
 - Governance and access
 - Anti-racism training
 - Agenda 2030 and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
- Career orientation within the field of development cooperation
 - Coaching
 - Networking
 - Consultation

Testimonials from previous participants



Bartosz Walenda
Project Manager
at KfW
North Africa
Division

“The critical and open spirit at the SLE, the possibility to try out new topics and roles, and to work with many people from different technical backgrounds... [Is what the SLE has done especially well]. A highlight in any case was the many weeks of teamwork undertaken with the Malawian research team during our JIRP.”



Laura Kübke
Global Business Network
Program
Coordinator of
the Business and
Cooperation
Desk of the GIZ
in Kampala,
Uganda

“I was a participant of the 54th cohort. The skills I learned at the SLE have provided me with security in my profession from the very beginning, which has eased my integration within such a complex system and network. The SLE was surely, from any viewpoint, an extremely enriching experience, and great friendships for life have come from it – which has privately and professional shaped me.”

Overview of the year

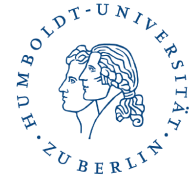
January	May	July	October	December
Working approaches	Preparation of JIRPs in Asia, Africa, and Latin America	Implementation of JIRPs	Post-implementation working period for JIRPs	Transition into entering career path, next steps
Management methods		Professional consultation, coaching		
Development strategies				
Development Policy Discussion Days (EPDT)				

Overseas projects



Requirements

- Completed Bachelor degree
- Completed “Diplom” or Master degree
- Preexisting knowledge of the field of development cooperation
- Very good knowledge of English
- Good knowledge of another language is an advantage
- Longer stays in Emerging Economies and/or countries of the Global South
- Above average interest in development policy and engagement, internship experience in foreign countries
- Citizenship of an EU-country, emerging economy, or country of the Global South.



Application procedure and financing

Application period and procedure:

1st of June until the 31st of July

Application is possible through the online portal on the SLE website: www.sle-berlin.de

Candidate pre-selection occurs at the end of August. Afterwards, 50 candidates are provided a secondary application appointment during one day in October. There, an interdisciplinary commission will select the best candidates, and 20 people will be invited to study at the SLE.

Financing:

Interest-free loans are provided to a sum of 1000 Euro per month. There is also the possibility for an additional payment according to registered dependents. 25% of the loan is a stipend that must not be repaid. Monthly repayment is made three years after the beginning of your career, up to 50 Euros a month.

Interested? Apply now!

Are you ready for an exciting, content-full year at the SLE?

Make sure to apply before the application deadline (July 31st)!

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