

**Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe:  
DAAD Special Programme "Academic Reconstruction"  
Funded Partnerships in the Field of**

**Engineering and Natural Sciences**

<b>Subject Area</b>	<b>Thermo-Fluid-Dynamics</b>
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**Project:** Modern Computational Methods for the Development of Environmentally Friendly Energy Technologies

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**Outline**

This collaborative project aims to improve the teaching and research at the participating universities in the field of Computational Engineering, whereby the focus is on modern computational methods for developing environmental energy technologies. The methods are based on Computational Fluid-Dynamics.

The following courses are scheduled in 2009:

- International Student Course on "Energy Efficiency in the Field of Heating, Ventilation and Air-Conditioning (HVAC)" in Macedonia for around 28 students in the 3rd to 5th academic year from throughout the South-Eastern Balkan Region. 4 Days.
- International Student Course "Numerical Heat Transmission" in Southern Serbia, for around 28 students in the 3rd to 5th academic year from throughout the South Eastern Balkan Region. 4 Days.

This provides an introduction into the principles and computational methods used in this modern subject area. Students from the fields of Mechanical Engineering, Power Engineering, Physics or even Architects and Civil Engineers are addressed. The objectives are to deliver knowledge in a modern subject area, to establish mutual and reciprocal contacts as a basis for a sustainable research network, to share and exchange information on study and research opportunities, and to engage in curriculum development.

Furthermore, a PhD course will be run in Bulgaria this year in which a group of between 16 and 20 doctoral students from South Eastern European countries will get the opportunity, on the one hand, to work together and so extend their specialist knowledge by attending lectures given by university teachers and, on the other, to present their own research to those attending the course and to discuss this with them. The goals here are to deliver knowledge in a modern subject area, to establish a research tradition in line with international standards, to create two-way contacts as a basis for a sustainable research network, to facilitate international contacts, and to introduce the students to the European and international research landscape

In addition, local centres of excellence will be promoted within the participating institutions by offering scholarships and grants for outstanding students and by funding the acquisition of up-to-date hardware and software. On the one hand, the latter is important for the training of students and, on the other, particularly for promoting contacts with local industry, energy utilities, authorities and other higher education institutions.

Experimental and numerical methods for computing and optimising flow, combustion and thermal transfer processes in the field of industrial climate technology, combustion plants and heat exchangers will be developed and applied here.

<b>Subject Area</b>	<b>Environmental Research</b>
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**Outline**

The key content of our project proposal for 2009 is to continue our summer schools within the scope of the Centre for Applied Spectroscopy (CAS). As a new member of the centre, the University of Maribor will be represented for the first time. The research group headed by Prof. Knez will conduct practical experiments on the supercritical extraction of foods using CO<sub>2</sub>. The centre is responsible for establishing modern chemical and analytical methods at each of the locations and, as far as possible, for providing technical assistance for the individual members. The goal is to integrate students as well as postdocs and the participating professors into a network in which each member profits from the know-how of the others. The first personal publications have been produced at the centre, others are in preparation. The total number of students per summer school is 20.

Detailed information on the summer schools is available on the homepage:  
[www.summerschool-cas.org](http://www.summerschool-cas.org).

A scientific colloquium and an alumni meeting of participants from the summer schools held over the past five years will now be held in Novi Sad in autumn 2009.

<b>Subject Area</b>	<b>Geography</b>
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**Outline**

"Tourism and Regional Development on the South-Eastern Adriatic Coast (study project within the scope of the Geographical Teaching and Research Network on applications-oriented Regional Research in South Eastern Europe)"

In terms of economic development perspectives, Montenegro is focusing very strongly on the Tourism Factor. The country has the requisite natural and regional requirements, can build on previous structures from the Yugoslavian period, and is playing an active role again following the turmoil of the 1990s, including, for example, being back on the map of international tourist companies. A second litoralisation process is connected with the regional-economic impact of maritime tourism – even though a second tourist base exists in the hills and mountains. Large areas of the mountain regions are emptying, while the coastal region, above all, is experiencing greater concentration and conurbation processes.

In the sense of gaining scientific insights and knowledge, primary surveys have been carried out which address both the demand side (origin, motive, budget, etc. of the tourists) as well as the supply side (private and commercial suppliers, local and foreign investors, etc.). There are plans to complement this in expert discussions with local and regional decision makers as well as by collecting and analysing relevant secondary statistical information. The study project's higher education didactic goal is initially to instruct the students of various nationalities on how to conduct their own, independent and application-oriented empirical research. Besides delivering skills and competencies in the field of empirical social and economic research, importance is also attached to using foreign language skills in the course of the necessary work in small groups, including, especially, so-called soft skills, like team working.

<b>Subject Area</b>	<b>Power and Electrical Engineering</b>
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**Outline**

The Department of Theoretical Electrical Engineering at the TU Ilmenau is supporting the formation of a regional network made up of the Universities of Niš, Skopje, Banja Luka, Sofia and Split in 2009 by providing education, professional development and in-service training measures for outstanding students and, in particular, for young scientists and researchers in the field of electrical engineering. The aim is to both modernise the teaching in engineering courses for the field of Master's programmes in electrical engineering and, on the other, to promote regional collaboration through contacts and experience exchange between teachers and academics. Particular importance is attached to qualifying the young scientists and researchers. The qualification of young scientists and researchers is promoted by short study stays at the TU Ilmenau, and above all by the annual international doctoral seminar held here on all current research topics in the field of electrical engineering. This specialist intensive course, which is also open to participants from other universities, will be held in Niš Serbia at the end of August 2009 under the motto "Computational Electromagnetics and Biological Effects of Electromagnetic Fields (CEMBEF)", to which some 30 participants are expected.

Besides guest speakers from the region, distinguished speakers from other European countries and from overseas (Germany, Austria, United States) have been recruited and will speak on the latest developments in their research fields.

The participants in the international doctoral students seminar additionally get the opportunity to directly follow this up by visiting the subsequent scientific conference, the 9th International Conference on Applied Electromagnetics (PES 2009), which will present the results of their research projects to the scientific public and enable them to discuss and debate with experts in their respective subject areas. In so doing, they will both make contacts with other universities and higher education institutions in the region, but also with regional business and industry. On the one hand, this approach aims to strive for a better self-presentation of the young scientists and researchers from the region, while on the other, the goal of these activities is also to further advance the research done by universities in the Balkans and so to make them fit for being able to take part in EU research projects soon under the 7th Research Framework Programme.

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### Outline

Within the scope of the DAAD Special Programme "Academic Reconstruction of South Eastern Europe" (SEE), the aim is to structurally expand the existing "International Master and Postgraduate Programme in Materials Science and Catalysis".

The focus is on the following core areas:

- Modern synthesis and spectroscopy methods in homogenous and heterogeneous catalysis
- Modern theoretical methods
- Materials sciences.

The extension of the project serves, in particular, to continue to sustainably improve the study and research conditions at institutions in South Eastern Europe in order to achieve the long-term integration of the jointly created network. This will continue and intensify the exchange between Master's students, PhD students and visiting lecturers and the partners, whereby the focus will be on South Eastern European institutions. The coming funding term will focus on expanding and intensifying the scientific collaboration between the participating institutions, with the goal of developing project-related university collaborations.

In the long-term, the Master's programme aims to ensure that a uniform level of student education and training is assured within the network. The postgraduate programme is also to be continued. Besides promoting exchange, it also serves to provide an expanded thematic-specific training of PhD students within the network.

To ensure a university level of education and training at the universities taking part in the network, special lectures will be given by visiting professors and lecturers from the three partner universities. The summer semester 2009 and the winter semester 2009/2010 will see special lectures given by Romanian lecturers in Skopje and Leipzig. Macedonian lecturers will offer special lectures in the Master's programme in Cluj-Napoca and Leipzig to support the teaching at these universities.

One of the priorities of the project is provided by the planned intensive course with special lectures at the Department of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering at the Babes-Bolyai University in Cluj-Napoca, Romania (September 2009), including participation by lecturers and students from all institutions. The realisation of intensive courses serves to promote the collaborative training of graduates and doctoral students, the intensification of exchange between lecturers, and also extends the collaboration between the participating institutions.

Opportunities also exist for research stays by German, Romanian and Macedonian Master's students and PhD students at partner institutions. A total of 10 students from Macedonia and Romania will be awarded Sur-Place Scholarships

<b>Subject Area</b>	<b>Engineering, Vacation Academies</b>
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### Outline

With funding provided by the DAAD, the University of Erlangen-Nuremberg holds a series of regional intensive courses in the field of engineering in South Eastern Europe. The eleventh summer academy will be held in Montenegro in September 2009. These "summer academies" target outstanding students of engineering from all the Balkan countries. Supervised by German and South Eastern European university teachers, they attend, in addition to their regular studies at their home university, lectures and exercises on the latest engineering topics and present their own specially-prepared papers. Besides the scientific in-service training and professional development which this offers, the project focuses on cross-border collaboration between students and teachers on topics of common interest.

The project goals are:

- to improve the quality of education and training at the participating South Eastern European universities in the subject areas of the three academy courses,
- to promote student academy participants as potential young academics for their home universities,
- to strengthen ties between the participating universities in South Eastern Europe, as well as between these universities and the participating universities from Germany.

<b>Subject Area</b>	<b>Civil Engineering</b>
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### Outline

The first project phase carried out between 2000 and 2003 under the direction of Prof. em Dr. Günther Schmid, Ruhr University Bochum, aimed to establish the German-South Eastern European Network *DYNET* in order to promote research and teaching in the field of civil engineering. Besides the project partners from the core Universities of Skopje, Niš, Belgrade and Sarajevo, numerous other civil engineering faculties from throughout the region of South Eastern Europe and from Germany were integrated into this network. The network is growing steadily, in South Eastern Europe most recently with scientists from the civil engineering faculties at the Universities of Podgorica (Montenegro), Osijek (Croatia), and Pristina (Kosovo), and in Germany by additionally integrating scientists from the RWTH Aachen University, the University of Wuppertal, the Brandenburg University of Technology Cottbus, the Geoforschungszentrum Potsdam, the University of Hamburg-Harburg, the University of Kassel and others.

The intermediate results in re-establishing cooperation and collaboration and in integrating teaching into the European Bologna Process stood out with the creation of the international, English-instructed Master of Earthquake Engineering programme (supported with DAAD scholarships from 2001 to 2009) at the Institute of Earthquake Engineering and Engineering Seismology (IZIIS), University of Skopje, as well as the creation of a further international, English-instructed, four-semester Master's programme in "Computational Engineering" in Belgrade with the participation of the University of Niš (from 2004 to 2008 supported with DAAD scholarships within the scope of

the DAAD-financed continuation of Project Phase II, headed by Prof. Dr. Rüdiger Höffer. The annual DAAD supported "Workshops", held with but one exception to enable young university graduates to present their Diplom or Master's theses are further important results of the project work. A particularly forward-looking step has been taken by the partners at the University of Skopje creating their own Bachelor's programme. The European TEMPUS Project DEREK (JEB 19028-2004) resulted in a Bachelor's programme in "Environmental Engineering and Management of Resources" being established, which has been running since autumn 2008. Contributions to the creation of the course were made by the Universities of Bochum, Florence, Thessaloniki, and Vienna. Prof. Dr. Atanasko Tuneski from the University of Skopje is in charge of the project, Dr. Enrica Caporali from the University of Florence serves as the budget administrator, Prof. Dr. Claudio Borri is the contracting partner for the funding body. Responsibility for the course lies with the Faculties of Mechanical Engineering and Civil Engineering at the University of Skopje. There are plans to offer a double degree together with the School of Engineering at the University of Florence.

To expand this, the Faculty of Civil Engineering and the Institute of Earthquake Engineering and Engineering Seismology additionally collaborated to establish a Graduate Centre at the University of Skopje in October 2004. To contribute substantially to the training of urgently-needed young academics, this centre will give qualified young researchers from throughout the region of South Eastern Europe the opportunity, along the lines of the graduate schools and research training groups in Germany, to take a fast track route to their doctorate, meaning, as far as possible, within 3 years. To prevent a "brain drain", excellent doctoral students will be given sur-place funding and what is more, will, in the future have even better opportunities for gaining international experience. The programme is supporting 29 candidates so far, further candidates financed from other sources have also been integrated. The doctoral procedures are, as a rule, completed at the home universities. Following in line with the structured doctoral training offered by the DFG's Research Training Groups, this additionally includes opportunities for doctoral candidates to engage in their own research coupled with intensive, joint supervision by a South Eastern European and a German university professor, a several month long research stay with the German academic supervisor, and subject-specific continuing qualification in the form of obligatory intensive courses at the Graduate Centre of the University of Skopje with German and South Eastern European lecturers. This serves to guarantee the outstanding training of the doctoral students and to create future cross-border contacts for the young academics to encourage networked ideas and work in teaching and research. The specified double supervision of the doctoral students also made it possible last year to recruit further partners from the South Eastern European region and from Germany for the network. The first doctoral student has meanwhile completed his doctorate, several other dissertations have been submitted and are now being assessed.

A new development was seen in the German-South Eastern European "Symposium for Civil and Environmental Engineering Sciences SCEES" being held for the first time in 2008, a scientific forum for the presentation of very good Master's and PhD theses as well as scientific contributions.

As the project proceeds, new goals and objectives arise. Meanwhile, expanding the network and consolidating the scientific contacts have taken the place of the successful reconstruction of scientific contacts. Besides integrating South Eastern European colleagues into the science community and into technical applied projects, joint proposals to raise external funds for research are also priority activities. This has been carried out successfully on several occasions. Information on this is available on request from the Coordinator, Prof. Höffer.

Subject Area	Engineering
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### Outline

The "Materials Science and Materials Technology" network established in 2005, which the Universities of Pristina, Tetova, Tirana, Elbasan and Vlorë and the TU Bergakademie Freiberg and the LVQ-Mülheim belong to, has set itself the goal of promoting the university training of materials engineers and materials scientists in the Albanian-speaking Balkan region by means of visiting lectures, by jointly developing teaching materials, and by qualifying young scientists and researchers.

With the support of the University of Tirana, a summer school on the topic of "Selected methods of materials characterization" was held from 13 to 24 July 2008. Besides German Lektors, professors or Lektors from the two universities in Tirana and the University of Durres were included (23 student participants).

Within the scope of the two workshops (Struga and Tirana) the content was agreed and the first scripts written in Albanian were made available. From now on, these are to be used to the future joint benefit of all involved. These are: "Fundamentals of Materials Science, Solid-State Physics" (Grundlagen der Werkstoffwissenschaft, Festkörperphysik). Within the scope of these activities, Prof. Sylva (University of Pristina, Solid-State Physics) and Mgr. A. Hoxha (University of Elbasan/Tirana) came to Freiberg on short visits. A short visit is also yet to be completed by Dr. Marku (University of Tirana). Visiting lectures by university professors from Freiberg in the region in the second half of the year: Dr. Melzer: "Ceramic Materials" (Keramische Werkstoffe) (University of Tetova), Prof. Oettel: "Semiconducting Materials" (Halbleiterwerkstoffe) (University of Pristina), and X-ray Diffractometry (Röntgendiffraktometrie), Polytechnic University Tirana, Prof. Klimanek: "Modelling in Materials Science" (Modellierung in der Werkstoffwissenschaft) (University of Tirana)

Two students from the Universities of Tirana and two students from the University of Pristina are currently producing their Diplom or Master's thesis respectively, one at the Institute of Materials Science, the other at the Institute of Ceramic Materials at the TU Bergakademie Freiberg.

The Faculty of Mining and Metallurgy at the University of Pristina/Mitrovica is organising a professional development and postgraduate course on "Materials Testing in Power Stations" (17 speakers from the region, one presentation from the LVQ Mülheim).