

**DAAD-Programm „Hochschuldialog mit der islamischen Welt“****Projektprofil****Titel des Projekts:**

Breeding intercultural exchange between Iran and Germany

**Name der deutschen Hochschule(n):**

Universität Freiburg

**Projektverantwortliche(r):**

Prof. Dr. Klaus Palme

**Partnerland/-länder:**

Iran

<b>Partnerhochschule(n)</b>
Shahid Bahonar University of Kerman, Iran
Agricultural Biotechnology Research Institute of Iran (ABRII)

**Kurzbeschreibung / Projektziele:**

In 2030, the Iranian population will have reached 100 Million whereas the world's population will be close to 9 billion. To feed all these people, it will be necessary to boost agricultural productivity by overcoming limitations of conventional plant-breeding techniques. The project will provide foundation for the development and exploration of innovative solutions into non-transgenic plant breeding. The unique developmental switch from pollen towards embryo formation will be comprehensively studied using state-of-the-art scientific and technological advances. Partners from Freiburg and Kerman University and the associated partner institute in Karaji will not only combine a wide range of cutting-edge methods but use plant breeding as unique chance for intercultural dialogue between higher education institutes from different cultural worlds who share more or less the same research interests. The dialogue will be focused beyond the technical and scientific topics by considering regional and cultural aspects to improve basic science teaching and performance. As excellent higher education is the basis for performance in both basic and applied science, the different strategies of the different systems will be discussed and by joint learning between partners improved. By doing this, the project will contribute not only to determine key information on plant embryogenesis, but enable in the long-term acceleration of breeding of plant varieties important for drought affected regions in Iran. Thereby the project will translate results into accelerating plant breeding, and due to its multidisciplinary character, involve and train students at different levels in both countries for intercultural dialogue. Thereby the project will make major contributions to a comprehensive scientific advance towards a next generation "green biotechnology revolution" and at the same time advance intercultural understanding at various levels.