



German
Biosecurity Programme

ROBERT KOCH INSTITUT



BNITM

Bernhard Nocht Institute for Tropical Medicine



AFENET
African Field Epidemiology Network
A healthier Africa

Swiss TPH



Global-Partnership-Initiated-Biosecurity-Academia for Controlling Health Threats (GIBACHT)

GIBACHT is an educational programme established and supported by the German Federal Foreign Office. The training programme focuses on threats and risks conferred by biological agents and bioweapons and their successful prevention and control. The programme is offered and responsibly conducted by two German institutes, the Robert Koch Institute in Berlin and the Bernhard Nocht Institute for Tropical Medicine in Hamburg, as well as the Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute in Basel, Switzerland, and the African Field Epidemiology Network in Kampala, Uganda.

The programme budget covers economy-class flights, accommodation, and daily meals. There are no tuition fees.

No daily allowances (per diems) will be paid. Travel expenses are funded according to the federal travel expenses law ('Deutsches Bundesreisekostengesetz'). Only visa fees paid to the German or Ugandan embassy are covered.

Internet access is required to complete the e-learning modules.

For more information please visit: www.gibacht.org

The objectives of the programme are:

- To provide basic understanding and training in the management of biohazards,
- To intensify and sustain international co-operation in the fields of biosafety, biosecurity and the prevention and management of epidemics,
- To strengthen national and local centres for infectious disease epidemiology and management, biosafety and biosecurity.

Target group:

- The task of the German Biosecurity programme is to strengthen public health services of partner countries in Africa, the Middle East, and Asia. We are therefore looking for applicants who originate from and are currently based in these regions.
- Professional experience of at least two years in either the public health or medical sector, preferably with engagement in the management, prevention and control of infectious diseases
- A degree or proficiency in at least one of the following fields:
 - Public Health
 - Medicine
 - Epidemiology
 - Microbiology
 - Biology
 - Equivalent life science disciplines
- An endorsement document of the current employer containing an assurance that the GIBACHT fellow will be released from work for the three one-week workshops, additional student investment time between the workshops, and confirming a minimum of a one-year contract duration following completion of the programme.

- Advanced proficiency in English, for example: TOEFL Paper 550, TOEFL Computer 213, TOEFL Internet 79–80, IELTS 6.0, native speaker, or completed higher education in English (with written proof). For applicants without proof of English proficiency, we intend to conduct phone interviews.

Expected proficiency acquired through completion of the programme includes:

- Comprehensive knowledge of selected infectious agents, including ways of transmission and prevention,
- Safe handling of biological specimens and potentially hazardous materials,
- Utilisation of adequate epidemiological tools,
- Managing infectious disease outbreak scenarios,
- Surveillance and contact tracing,
- Containment measures, including personal safety/-security ,
- Knowledge of international health regulations,
- Communication management under disaster or extreme conditions.
- Knowledge on development and utilisation of a biosafety/biosecurity case study as a training tool

Accreditation

After successful completion of the programme, the fellows will be granted six European credit transfer system (ECTS) points from the University of Basel. To achieve this certification, fellows are required to:

- Participate successfully in eight obligatory e-learning modules, which will be made accessible from 1 – 31 January 2019 (around 10h student investment time, in total) and which will be graded; the best 16-18 fellows will be accepted into the full programme
- Participate successfully in 12 more eLearning modules, which will be made available from 25 February to 5 April 2019 (about 16h of student investment time)
- Participate in the introductory workshop from 8-12 April 2019 in Hamburg, Germany
- Participate in the second workshop with a main focus on real-time simulation of biological incidents from 15-19 July 2019 in Berlin, Germany
- Participate in the final face-to-face workshop with field-testing of developed case studies from 14-18 October 2019 in Kampala, Uganda.
- Complete additional distance-based group work (during and in between workshops) concerning the development of case studies (around 80h student investment time, i.e. (~8h/month)
- Conduct a biosafety/biosecurity training in their home institutions between the first and the second workshop (scientific exchange).

Application

Please submit the application form and requested documents in the online portal at:

www.bnitm.de/gibacht

Application deadline is **31 October 2018, midnight Central European Time**

Acceptance to the programme is subject to the approval from the German Federal Foreign office.

Women are strongly encouraged to apply.

Only electronic applications submitted through the online portal will be accepted. Please **do not** send hardcopy applications by mail. Incomplete applications will **NOT** be considered.

As spaces are limited, a two-stage selection procedure will be applied:

- The steering board of the programme will select the applicants to be admitted to the first eight e-learning modules
- After the completion of these eight modules, the best 16-18 fellows will be selected and admitted to the full programme.