Afrika-Volloquium Vortragsreihe des Instituts für Afrikawissenschaften

Enhancing the quality of sociology postgraduate teaching through decolonization: A collaboration of lecturers from Ethiopia, Nigeria and Austria

How can university teaching be improved through transborder cooperation between lecturers? This question is the starting point of a collaborative project of nine sociology lecturers from Ethiopia, Nigeria and Austria that started in May 2021 and is funded by Africa-UniNet. In order to develop high-quality teaching in the postgraduate programs of the team members' home institutions, we engage in development of curricula and syllabi, joint teaching and advising as well as in peer feedback and training. Application of sociological knowledge, methods and theories to local realities through 'decolonialization' is at the center of the project. What does 'decolonization' mean and how should we define it for our project? Is decolonization of our curricula, syllabi and teaching practices as well as of advising feasible? Do we want it? How does decolonization relate to key goals of the project such as equipping students with knowledge and skills that they can use later in their jobs? When presenting how the collaborative project has developed since its start, we will share our reflections on these questions. We will explain how we have answered them so far and reflect challenges and opportunities we experienced to date.

Presenters/ Discussants:

Amsalu Almaw, Kasahun Desyalew Mekonen, Dessalegn Mekuriaw from Debre Markos University, Ethiopia/ Bola Amaike; Idongesit Eshiet, Michael Kunnuji from the University of Lagos, Nigeria/ Bettina Mahlert, Bernadette Müller Kmet, Markus Schermer from the University of Innsbruck, Austria

Chair: Daniela Waldburger & Rémi Armand Tchokothe, University of Vienna

Tuesday, 30th of November 2021, 17:30 (CET)

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