

Vacancy: Research Associate

THE SPEARHEARD NETWORK FOR INNOVATIVE, CLEAN AND SAFE CEMENT & CONCRETE TECHNOLOGIES (SPIN)

SPIN is a consortium of 11 academic and non academic institutions from six African and three European Union countries (Burundi, Croatia, DR Congo, Germany, Mozambique, Netherlands, Rwanda, South Africa, Tanzania, and Uganda) with a special focus on R&D in the area of Cement, Concrete Technology, and Concrete Construction.

Following stiff competition between hundreds of ACP-EU scientific partnerships, SPIN has been awarded a grant by the European Union (via the ACP-Science & Technology Secretariat) in order to conduct activities related to cement, concrete and concrete constructions technologies aimed at:

- building and enhancing strong scientific & technological capacity to support research, development and innovation in the above ACP countries;
- enabling the identification and formulation of activities or policies critical to sustainable development, and application of knowledge gained from Science & Technology in fighting poverty.

The instruments of the above programme are as follows:

1. Co-ordination and networking in applied research (promotion and strengthening private, civil society, or Government R&D networks).
2. Assessment and identification of collaborative research thrusts among institutions within the framework of sustainable development.
3. Management of research activities and reinforcement of research quality through short-term training sessions at regional, sub-regional and country levels.
4. Strengthening and upgrade of the competences of the scientific community in the areas of research methods, research funds management, research managerial capacities.

To achieve these goals, SPIN is recruiting a **Research Associate** limited until Nov. 9, 2012.

The successful candidate will carry out and coordinate the above activities: Reporting to the SPIN leader within the institution and to the SPIN Project Coordinator, he/she will work in close cooperation with Witwatersrand University (Wits), Johannesburg, South Africa at BAM Federal Institute for Materials Research and Testing (Berlin, Germany), while being supported by the Technical University of Eindhoven (The Netherlands), the Civil Engineering Institute of Croatia and, the Advanced Cement Training & Projects (South Africa).

Requirements:

- Minimum a MSc degree in the field of civil engineering, architecture, chemistry, chemical engineering, materials science, environmental Sciences, mineralogy or geology, etc.
- Comprehensive technical grasp in the field of cement and/or concrete technology
- Basic knowledge of cement chemistry, cement processing, cement raw materials, concrete technology, or concrete structures or ability to learn fast
- Understanding of the African cement and concrete industries based in SADC, CEPGL & EAC countries would be an asset.
- Project management experience at national or international level would be an advantage.
- Experience in working in multicultural environments
- Team work and excellent communication skills with high degree of independence
- Ability to formulate and communicate scientific and technical results at scientific and technical forums
- Good command of English. Basic knowledge of German and/or French or Portuguese would be an advantage.
- Willingness to travel and work in the above-mentioned countries for short periods of time

Applications from ACP countries are not mandatory but will be handled with priority.

For further information please contact one of the following:

- Dipl.-Ing. Wolfram Schmidt at BAM, Berlin, Germany. Tel: 0049-30-8104-3210; Fax: 0049-30-8104-1717; Email: wolfram.schmidt@bam.de; (in German, English, French, or Spanish),
- Dr.-Ing. Hans-Carsten Kühne, BAM, Berlin, Germany. Tel: 0049-30-8104-1711; Fax: 0049-30-8104-1717; Email: hans-carsten.kuehne@bam.de; (German or English),
- Dr. Stephen Ekolu at Wits University, Johannesburg, South Africa. Tel: 0027-11-77 7117; Fax: 0027 11 7177 045; Email: stephen.ekolu@wits.ac.za (English or Swahili)
- Dr. Eng. Jean Bosco Kazirukanyo, Advanced Cement Training & Projects, Johannesburg, South Africa. Tel: 0027 83 557 37 89; Fax: 0027 11 675 25 51; Email: cemtraining@gmail.com; (English and French)

Please send your job application letter and your CV to anyone of the above contacts via email or fax until December 16 2009.